

A Church for Everyone



Week of Prayer for Home Missions 1988

March 6-13, 1988

Annie Armstrong Easter Offering

National Goal: \$37,500,000

Our Goal:

"Tentmakers" unlock doors where missionaries cannot

RICHMOND, Va. (BP) — Bivocational workers can help unlock the doors to witness in countries that would never admit a missionary, an evangelical missiologist told the new Global Strategy Group of the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board.

"We can't afford to delegate the whole work of the church to a paid handful," Ted Ward declared.

Ward, professor of Christian education and missions at Trinity Evangelical Divinity School in Deerfield, Ill., spent a full day with the 10-member group that is leading the Foreign Mission Board's efforts in global evangelization.

Modern-day "tentmakers" who have legitimate skills needed in developing countries can gain entry in places where full-time missionaries could not go, Ward said. The term "tentmaker" comes from the Apostle Paul, who made tents to pay his expenses while teaching and preaching

the gospel message in other countries.

Such an approach would be one method Southern Baptists and other evangelicals could try as they seek to have a Christian witness in Muslim countries, he said. "How many people from our churches are already (through their vocations) in Islamic countries?" he asked. It's important, he said, to identify and train these people so that as they go they will be prepared to make a positive impact while in the Muslim countries, or in others no longer accessible to missionaries.

Ward acknowledged that the FMB, through its Laity Abroad program, is farther ahead than most in this regard. But he called for a balance between the traditional career missionary approach, which is effective in the 112 countries where Southern Baptist missionaries now work, and the bivocational workers. (The board also uses many skilled volunteers for

periods ranging from a few weeks up to more than a year in places where they can strengthen the work of its 3,800-member career missionary force.)

Too many people, he said, think you can only be "called" by God to a monovocational, or full-time, ministry.

He cited William Carey of England, considered the father of the modern-day missionary movement, who was a salaried university professor at the same time he was working as a missionary in India. Robert Morrison, the first Protestant sent to China by the London Missionary Society, was a Chinese translator for a trading company.

He urged the mission board to look at the value of setting up an organized corps of Christian educators, especially those trained in teaching English.

The Baptist Record

Published Since 1877

Thursday, March 3, 1988

Prof says Islam is threat in Nigeria

By Scott Collins

FORT WORTH, Texas (BP) — When guest professor Sam Fadeji talks to his classes at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, he draws on a national history almost as old as the Southern Baptist Convention's.

In 1850, as the Southern Baptist Convention celebrated its fifth anniversary, missionary Thomas Bowen landed in Nigeria, making it the C's third mission field. Missionaries were already serving in China and Liberia.

Today more than 1 million people worship in 4,500 Nigerian Baptist churches each Sunday. In addition, the Nigerian Baptist Convention sponsors its own seminary and 40 home missionaries. Fadeji, professor of Old Testament at Nigerian Baptist Seminary, is a product of the mission work begun by Bowen. As national guest professor at Southwestern this fall, Fadeji speaks with authority about the importance of world missions.

Fadeji's faith was nurtured in a strong Baptist home. His father, a carpenter, served 36 years as a Baptist pastor in three small Nigerian villages. The elder Fadeji led his son to faith in Christ and taught him "the rudiments of the faith."

Sitting in his office at Southwestern,

Fadeji speaks fondly of his father, who at 78 still rides his bicycle to minister in his tiny village.

"Islam is the real threat (in Nigeria) today," Fadeji says. A "tug of war" between Islam and Christianity makes it difficult for missionaries to live in Nigeria today, he adds. But Christian missionaries must also deal with traditional African religions that tempt Christians during personal trials.

Those experiences illustrate for Fadeji the importance of the Bible over culture in the Christian faith. "We must not mix the eternal truths with the forms in which they are presented," he says. "The Bible must be our primary source for all our theology, evangelism and missions."

Through emphasis on the Bible and evangelism, Baptists have laid a firm foundation in Nigeria, Fadeji adds. But that does not mean missionaries are no longer needed.

On the contrary, Fadeji says Nigeria stills needs the support of Southern Baptists, especially in technical areas such as medicine, agriculture and theological education.

Scott Collins writes for Southwestern Seminary.

What's inside?

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Editorials . . . by Don McGregor

Home missions at work

The rocky coast of New England is a beautiful, though severe, setting for Southern Baptist home missions efforts that are making miraculous gains in an area where there is little interest in what is going on.

The Lord is blessing that work, as he does all efforts that are sincerely made in his name, and it is growing.

I returned recently from a trip to New England to attend the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Press Association. This organization of the 37 Baptist state papers, which was begun in 1926, met this year in Boston.

While we were there, we heard from several of the people who are involved in the work up there and on one day took a trip on farther up the coast to visit one of the congregations first-hand.

Screven Memorial Baptist Church at Portsmouth, New Hampshire, is the oldest church affiliated with the Baptist Convention of New England. It is named for William Screven, the intrepid early Baptist who, when he couldn't find freedom for his congregation, then located just across a bay from Portsmouth, N.H., in Kittery, Maine, moved the entire congregation to Charleston, South Carolina; and it became the first Baptist church in the South.

The Screven Memorial Church began in much the same way. There was no Southern Baptist Church in New England. But in 1958 an entire bomber wing was moved from an Air Force base in Roswell, N.M., to Pease Air Force Base near Portsmouth, and included in the move were 44 Southern Baptists.

The Southern Baptists couldn't find worship services to their liking, so they began a new church. It is now a solid, thriving congregation. It is the flagship of Southern Baptist churches in New England. While we were there,

members of the church treated us to a traditional New England lunch of boiled food, which was delicious.

There was no church at Chatham, which is on Massachusetts' Cape Cod. A committee of the local association was there seeking a site and dealing with a real estate person about one. They could have made a deal for the property they were inspecting but told the real estate agent they would rather have another nearby piece, though they realized it was too expensive for them. The agent said they might as well make an offer on it, and so they did. It was rather a long conversation to be recounted here, but it was significant. The agent called the owner and made the offer, and the owner told the agent that he had meant to call the agent to report that the property had been taken off the market.

The agent said that he would report to the group that was interested. The owner said, "You didn't tell me it was a group." "Yes," the agent responded. "It is a group looking for a place to begin a Southern Baptist church." "Let me speak to my sister," the owner replied. The owner called back to tell the agent to sell the property at a price the association could afford.

As a survey was made in the neighborhood, surveyors found three ladies who were delighted with the news. They said, "We have been praying for years that an evangelical church would be established in our area."

There are now more than 148 congregations in the New England convention, and miraculous things are continuing to take place. We found a Mississippi native there. He is Tom McKibbens, whose father was once pastor of First Church, Laurel. Tom played football at Ole Miss and was the center when Archie Manning was

quarterback, and he had become a professor of preaching at Southeastern Seminary.

His wife, however, wanted to take some graduate work that was available only at Harvard; so they moved to the Boston area. He is now the pastor of Metropolitan Church in Cambridge, near the Harvard campus.

And it continues. The Southern Baptists in New England are excited about what is going on. Southern Baptist work in New England is a product of Southern Baptist home missions efforts. The Home Mission Board was directly involved in the beginning of every church in the convention and still is involved in expanding the work there. Through the board we help to pay the salary for Eddie Allen, who is pastor of First Baptist Church, Chelsea, a suburb of Boston. This church was down to 10 people when the mission pastor arrived. Now there are 80 worshipping regularly. A fine church building was found and was sold to the congregation for the giveaway price of \$11,000. The price included a bank account containing \$11,000.

March 6 to 13 is the time for the annual Home Missions Week of Prayer and the Annie Armstrong Offering for home missions. The theme is "A Church for Everyone," and the Home Mission Board is doing all it can do to make that theme a reality all over the United States. It needs help from every Southern Baptist. The financial goal is \$37.5 million, and surely that is needed. It represents about half of the mission board's annual budget and will be used to put into motion such activity as is going on in New England.

More than the money is needed the prayers of all Southern Baptists. It is prayer that makes the money effective (Continued on page 6)

There is a litter bill

Three Mississippi senators, Glen Deweese of Meridian, Bill Canon of Columbus, and Jack Gordon of Okolona, have introduced a bill in the Senate aimed at controlling litter along the state's highways and roadways.

The bill is SB 2606. It has been assigned to the Senate Highways and Transportation Committee.

This is a bill that might not attract much attention, but we need to be in touch with senators, and representatives when it gets to the House, to ask that they support this bill.

The program would seek to prevent littering along the roadways by levying reasonable fines that law enforcement officials should not be hesitant to impose. Any law enforcement authority would be able to enforce the law.

Half of the fines collected would be placed in a statewide litter prevention fund to conduct the program. The other half would be returned to the town or county that collected the fine to be used in financing local litter prevention projects.

Thus there would be an effort on the part of both the state and the local en-

tity to put litter prevention programs into effect.

We don't have to drive along our roads and be sickened by trash that has been thrown out of cars. Mississippi has beautiful country vistas and charming cities and towns, but the effect can be ruined by litter thrown out of car windows by thoughtless people. Actually, it is thrown out by lazy people . . . those who are too lazy to find a proper place to put their trash.

SB 2606 should go a long way toward helping to relieve that condition. The members of the Senate Highways and Transportation Committee are Canon, who is chairman; Walter Graham, New Albany, vice-chairman; Wayne Burkes, Clinton; Bob Dearing, Natchez; Tommy Gollot, Biloxi; George Guerieri, Southaven; Ken Harper, Vicksburg; Bill Harpole, Starkville; Cecil Mills, Clara; Ollie Mohamed, Belzoni; Robert Monty, Greenville; Bill Renick, Ashland; Vince Scoper, Laurel; Rob Smith, Richland; Billy Thames, Mize; Pat Welch, McComb; John White, Baldwin; Roger Wicker, Tupelo; and Clyde Woodfield, Gulfport.

A giant has departed

An area of Southern Baptist journalism ended in 1977 with the retirement of John Hurt as editor of the Baptist Standard in Texas. On Feb. 17 the reason for that era passed away. He was 78.

I served as associate editor of the Texas paper with two of the giants of Southern Baptist journalism, E. S. James and John Hurt. Both had a tremendous impact on my thoughts and processes.

Hurt was the journalist, and from him I learned much.

As I move into the twilight of my own career in Southern Baptist journalism, which thus far has spanned 31

years, I must say that several people have had great influence on me; and to them I am deeply indebted. Among the two mentioned already must be added Walker Knight, now editor of SBC Today. He was associate editor of the Baptist Standard when I first went there, and he was responsible for my going. I became associate editor when he went to the Home Mission Board as editor.

With the retirement of James, however, Hurt came on the scene; and I have been grateful for his influence ever since.

Surely a giant has departed.

Worship is essential

Worship on the part of its members is a primary concern of any church corporately.

During its meeting March 10-11, the Mississippi Baptist Church Music Conference will address that concern. The featured program personality will be Bruce Leafblad, associate professor of church music and worship at Southwestern Seminary. He has been named to the chair of prayer and spiritual formation at the seminary.

Music plays a vital role in the worship experiences of church members, and the ministers of music of the state are aware of this. Thus they have a desire to find as much help as possible in being involved in worship experiences.

Dan Hall, the late director of the Church Music Department, was keen-

ly aware of the need for worship in church services. So also, surely, is the new director, Graham Smith.

The Church Music Conference will be March 10-11 at First Church, Vicksburg. Because pastors are the leaders in worship experiences, the music conference is making pastors of the state its invited guests.

During the course of the conference there will be a pastor-minister of music panel discussion on worship planning and a seminar led by Leafblad on aspects of worship.

Leafblad also will direct a worship service.

To find ways of enhancing worship is an admirable goal and certainly one that should be pursued with desire and dedication.



Screven Memorial Church in Portsmouth, N.H., sits in a frame of snow. Its sign is at left.

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One Hundred-Tenth Year One Hundred Ninth Annual Meeting Of Woman's Missionary Union

Auxiliary to Mississippi Baptist Convention

Colonial Heights Baptist Church, Jackson

March 14-15, 1988

Theme: The Best Part

Presiding: Wilda Fancher

Monday Afternoon

- 1:45 Presession Inspiration Dot Pray, Mary Simmons
Beth Henderson
- 2:00 Hymns of Praise Karen Hardy
- Theme Interpretation The Best Part Edwina Robinson
- Musical Interlude
- Prayer Antonina Canzoneri
- Organization Stuart Calvert
- Welcome Jeris Pitts
- THE BEST PART ... to us Panel, Retired Missionaries
Raymond Kolb, Brazil
Zelma Foster, Surinam
Winfield Applewhite, Indonesia
Martha Ellen Marler, Greece
Georgia Mae Ogburn, Chile
- Hymn
- THE BEST PART ... to me Alma Hunt
- Calendar of Prayer Joan Tyler
- Reading of By-Laws Gretta Lloyd
- Solo Beth Henderson
- THE BEST PART ... to me Edie Polnac
- Centennial Hymn Karen Hardy and audience
- THE BEST PART ... to me Marjorie McCullough
- Benediction Ann Kolb

MONDAY EVENING

- 6:45 Presession Inspiration Alice Nettles, Dot Pray,
Mary Simmons
- 7:00 Hymns of Praise Karen Hardy
- Theme Interpretation The Best Part Edwina Robinson
- Musical Interlude
- Prayer Carolyn Kee
- THE BEST PART ... to us Panel, Missionary Kids
- Hymn
- Solo Alice Nettles
- THE BEST PART ... to me Alma Hunt
- Hymn
- Offering (for WMU, SBC Building)
- Offertory Prayer Ralph Davis
- Offertory
- Meet Our President
- Solo Chris Harbin
- THE BEST PART ... to me Dottie Williamson
- Benediction Frances Smira

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION — Christian Life Center

TUESDAY MORNING

- 8:30-9:15 Prayer Breakfasts with Missionaries
- 9:15 Presession Inspiration Carolyn Kee, Martha Hewes,
Dot Pray, Mary Simmons
- Hymns of Praise Karen Hardy
- Theme Interpretation The Best Part Edwina Robinson
- Musical Interlude
- Prayer Elizabeth Hannah
- THE BEST PART ... to us Panel, parents of missionaries
- Hymn
- THE BEST PART ... to me Marjorie McCullough
- Offering (for WMU, SBC Building)
- Offertory Prayer Joyce Davis
- Offertory Carolyn Kee and Martha Hewes
- THE BEST PART ... to me (recognition of parents of
Mississippi missionaries) Sue Tatum
- THE BEST PART ... to me Marjean Patterson
- Hymn
- Solo Karen Hardy
- THE BEST PART ... to me Dottie Williamson
- Benediction

Luncheon honoring parents of missionaries, executive board members, program people, etc. immediately following morning session in Fellowship Hall

(Continued on page 4)

The Second Front Page

The Baptist Record

JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Thursday, March 3, 1988

Published Since 1877

Forces play tug-of-war for missions dollars

By Marv Knox

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — Competing forces yank Southern Baptists' pocketbooks back and forth in a tug-of-war over money for missions.

Their prize is the lifeline of Southern Baptist endeavor: the conventionwide Cooperative Program budget, which supports evangelistic, missionary and educational ministries around the globe; and the special offerings, which supplement state, national and foreign missions efforts.

Observers describe a full roster of forces on either side of the struggle. Positive influences have brought missions giving to record lengths. But negative factors have kept it from advancing further and threaten to pull it back.

Southern Baptists contributed a record \$130.3 million to the Cooperative Program during the past fiscal year. The Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for home missions and the Lot-

tie Moon Christmas Offering for foreign missions also set records in the past year. Obviously, Baptists are doing some things right.

Among factors that positively affect missions giving are:

— Missions priority. "There is the prevailing desire for us to find renewal of our missions priority and get on with it," says Cecil A. Ray, national director of Planned Growth in Giving, the denomination's stewardship and discipleship campaign.

— Evangelistic emphasis. "Southern Baptists always are anxious to support any effort to reach people for Christ and to establish churches. People see the need of establishing churches as a priority," reports Larry L. Lewis, president of the Home Mission Board. "Everywhere I've gone and talked to people about church planting — our goal is 50,000 churches (an increase of 13,000) by the year 2000 — they're excited and

want to be a part of that."

— Cooperative attitude. Southern Baptists embrace "a total concept of missions," explains Dan C. Stringer, executive director-treasurer of the Florida Baptist Convention.

— Personal involvement. "Recently, a whole slew of people have been involved in volunteer missions — about 52,000 last year," notes James H. Smith, president of the Southern Baptist Brotherhood Commission. "When people go away and participate in missions situations, they come back with a whole different perspective, and it is their churches that support missions."

— Sacrificial spirit. "Southern Baptists are willing to make major sacrifices if they know the money is going to be used to reach people for Christ in a meaningful and effective way," adds Lewis.

— Supportive programs. Woman's (Continued on page 5)

Presidents tell agenda

By Tim Nicholas and Dan Martin

The current and two former SBC presidents met with the press in Nashville last week to present a statement of their beliefs concerning the conservative movement in the convention.

SBC President Adrian Rogers, pastor of Bellevue Church, Memphis, flanked by former presidents, Bailey Smith and Jimmy Draper, released "A Conservative Southern Baptist Statement," just after the SBC Executive Committee concluded its February

meeting. Former SBC President Charles Stanley had been invited to the meeting, but was ill. Draper is pastor of First Church, Euless, Tex., was president, 1982-84; Smith, an Atlanta evangelist, 1980-82; and Stanley, pastor of First Church, Atlanta, 1984-86.

The four, linked together "philosophically," according to Rogers, wanted to make their own statements because, said Rogers, "there have been so many

misstatements about who we are, what we believe, and who speaks for us."

Central to their "affirmation," was their interpretation of the Southern Baptist Faith and Message Statement, particularly Article One on "The Scriptures," as "meaning the inerrancy of the original autographs."

Rogers, in beginning the meeting, criticized other groups such as the Southern Baptist Alliance and the

(Continued on page 4)

Parkway meet will offer info: missions opportunities for men

The annual Baptist Men's Conference this year offers missions information and opportunities for men in just about any field of expertise.

The conference links special interest conferences with a rally, plus lunch all on March 19 at Parkway Church, Jackson.

At the same time, the first ever Baptist Young Men's Rally will take place also at Parkway Church.

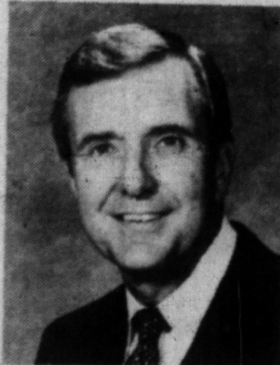
Registration for both groups begins at 9:30 that morning.

The men's missions conferences begin at 10 as does the young men's rally. The young men's rally will feature Larry Cox, who directs the

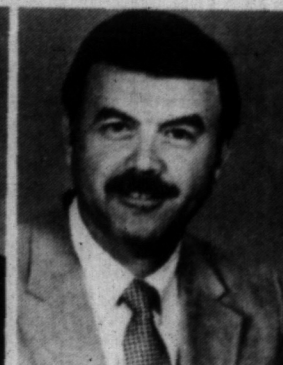
National Fellowship of Baptist Men and is a former missionary to Burkina Faso in Africa, plus Kenny Rains,

director of high school Baptist young men for the Brotherhood Commission.

(Continued on page 4)



Pollard



Smith



Gooch

SBC subcommittee affirms BP, but urges restraint

By Jim Newton

NASHVILLE (BP) — Acting on a recommendation of its public relations workgroup, the SBC Executive Committee declined to conduct an investigation of "objectivity and fairness" in Baptist Press news reporting from 1978 to the present.

A motion calling for such an investigation was referred to the 70-member committee by the Southern Baptist Convention in St. Louis last June. The motion was made by Dave Lucas, editor of the independent, autonomous Southern Baptist Journal published in Austin, Texas.

The Executive Committee listed four reasons for declining the request for an investigation of Baptist Press.

(1) It would be contrary to the spirit of the Peace Committee report adopted by the SBC in 1987; (2) It would relate to personnel no longer under employment; (3) It would entail the prohibitive task of studying more than 9,000 news releases in the 10-year period; and (4) It would preclude the fact that the public relations workgroup is responsible for advising the Executive Committee concerning the work of its public relations and Baptist Press staff.

Two other recommendations urged the Baptist Press to promote implementation of the Peace Committee report, and urged the Baptist Press, State Baptist papers and Southern Baptist Sunday School Board to publish and distribute the entire text of the Peace Committee report.

The Baptist Record ran the Peace Committee report in its entirety last year after passage at the SBC meeting. In addition to its recommendations, the public relations workgroup distributed to members of the Executive Committee a three-page report evaluating Baptist Press releases distributed from April 1987 to February 1988.

The summary report was prepared, according to PR workgroup chairman Julian M. Motley of Durham, N.C., "with a positive view toward... bringing an affirmation of the Baptist Press, which in turn might hopefully raise the trust level of all Southern Baptists and enhance the process of peace."

Motley said the goal of the report is "peace" in the denomination, and called on Baptist Press to take a leadership role in working toward peace in the convention. The workgroup, in its report, urged Baptist Press to exercise "Christian restraint" in publishing releases which tend to impugn the motives of any Southern Baptists, or which tend to revive hostile feelings "unnecessarily."

The workgroup observed it could not conclude that all press releases have been totally objective and balanced, because "some bias in reporting is inevitable, since the particular orientation of a writer is sometimes reflected in his judgment."

In addition to the observations evaluating Baptist Press releases by the seven-member workgroup, the Southern Baptist Press Association distributed to the Executive Committee their own analysis of Baptist Press releases.

The editors' analysis showed "no evidence of any bias in the performance of the reporting," according to Don McGregor, editor of the Baptist Record, who chaired the committee of eight editors asked to evaluate 897 releases from April to December of 1987.

In a statement of support for Baptist Press, the editors said the news service has done "a fair, accurate, and comprehensive job of reporting events in Southern Baptist life."

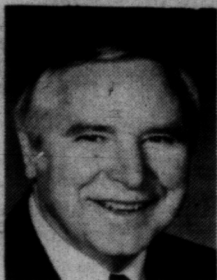
Both the statement from the Southern Baptist Press Association and the report of the public relations workgroup affirmed the work of Al Shackleford, director of Baptist Press. The workgroup report observed there has been improvement in the achievement of fairness and objectivity since Shackleford became director of the news service in April of 1987.

McGregor said, "We like what we found. We like Baptist Press the way it is... Any controls that might be placed on Baptist Press that would tend to limit its ability to report the news, all of the news, in a fair and objective manner, would... damage the credibility of Baptist Press. Loss of credibility, simply, would destroy it." He added, "If Baptist Press were to be controlled from the floor of the Executive Committee meetings, or by any group within the Executive Committee, its value... would be dissipated, for it would change with the changes in membership."

Jim Newton writes for HMB, SBC.

Tuten retires after 27 years at Calvary

Joe H. Tuten, 65-year-old pastor of Calvary Church, Jackson, on Sunday, February 28, announced that he will retire and possibly return to his home state of South Carolina. The retirement is to be effective March 31.



Tuten and began preaching there March 16, 1961. Before Biloxi, he had been pastor

in Louisiana at Calvary Church, New Orleans, and Belle Chase Church, Belle Chase. He was graduated from Furman University and earned a doctorate in theology from New Orleans Seminary.

He and his wife, the former Ruth Jarrell, have a son, Joe Jr., and a daughter, Jan.

In community affairs, he has spoken out in support of public education and clean government.

He has been a strong supporter of the ACTS television network, having led in a campaign for its financial support and having served as chairman of the ACTS Board of Hinds-Madison Association and as a member of the SBC ACTS Committee.

He has been a member of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee of Southern Baptist Hospitals, a trustee of William Carey College, and chairman of the Mississippi Baptist Convention's Education Commission, in addition to many other places of leadership in religious affairs.

B. W. Orrick dies

WACO, Texas (BP) — Bailis "B.W." Orrick, a retired Southern Baptist missionary who celebrated his 100th birthday Oct. 24, died Feb. 17. Orrick, whose health had been declining since surgery in November, became Southern Baptists' oldest retired missionary Jan. 1 when former missionary Julia Lowe died at age 103.

Presidents tell agenda

(Continued from page 3)

Baptist laity group in Texas, for continuing to hold meetings. Rogers' group met in Atlanta the previous week.

Rogers said the issue is not "J. Frank Norris fundamentalism," that his movement is not a part of the new right secular politics (He said the Baptist Record in an editorial by Don McGregor in the Feb. 18 issue, seemed to infer that what motivates his group is some kind of national political agenda.), not some particular interpretation of scripture, and not an attempt to force their views on others.

He added that it is not correct to say his group is anti-women or that they favor state mandated prayer.

He reiterated that the press conference and statement were not an attempt to put distance between the presidents' group and others in the conservative or fundamental movement. Rogers pointed out that some others have become "de facto" spokesmen.

The "affirmation" set out a series of affirmations to which the four men subscribe. The four-page single-spaced document sets out the way the four men interpret scripture, how they want the Southern Baptist Convention

to operate and their personal goals for the SBC.

They mentioned a desire for a spiritual awakening, for foreign and home missions efforts to be used by God, and for "those who represent Southern Baptists on the boards of institutions and agencies be selected from among those who affirm Article One of The Baptist Faith and Message as set out above."

Rogers said that the Peace Committee's report which included four specific examples of what "most" Southern Baptists believe was not meant to be creedal. He said that the Peace Committee, on which he served, "did agree Baptists have a right to set parameters for those who will work for them."

"To me not to believe that the miracles happened, not to believe that the Bible is historically accurate, not to believe that the stated authors did indeed write the books or not to believe that Adam and Eve were real people is outside the parameters of who we are, rank and file, Southern Baptists," Rogers said.

The full text of the presidents' group's statement is available from Adrian Rogers at Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis.

Parkway meet will offer...

(Continued from page 3)

The men's mission conferences simultaneously will have meetings for those interested in working in agriculture, church renewal, construction, education, ham radio, jail/prison ministry, prayer/witness ministry, and for the organization called Volunteers on Mission. These are separate fellowships and there is no membership requirement for attendance and participation.

The two groups will meet together for at banquet at the church, then jointly hold the afternoon conference at 12:15.

Mission speaker for the conference will be Frank Pollard, pastor of First Church, Jackson. Music leader will be Graham Smith, new director of the Church Music Department, Mississippi Baptist Convention Board. And vocalist will be Sheldon Gooch of Jackson.

Cost of the banquet will be \$6 per person. There is no fee for the special interest conferences or the missions message. To get tickets, write the Brotherhood Department, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205. Indicate which conference is to be attended, youth or adult.

SBC Today board elects Harwell editor

ATLANTA (BP) — Jack U. Harwell, former editor of the Christian Index, Georgia Baptists' weekly newsjournal, has been elected editor of SBC Today, an independent, autonomous Southern Baptist newspaper, effective June 1, the paper's board of directors announced.

Harwell's election, according to the board's action, is part of an effort to upgrade the publication by changing its frequency to twice monthly, adding other full-time staff members and increasing circulation.

The board has launched a campaign to raise \$250,000 by June 1, the time when Harwell would assume the editorship, in order to finance the changes. In the board's February meeting, Harwell was offered the post of editor to replace SBC Today founder, Editor Walker L. Knight, who

will remain with SBC Today as publisher.

Harwell, who worked for the Christian Index for 30 years, the final 21 as editor, took early retirement last December. He drew increasing criticism from conservatives who were displeased with his editorial policies. After a review committee was established to monitor him, he announced plans last October to retire last Dec. 31, saying he could no longer work under the group's restrictive policies.

The Georgia Baptist Convention voted to request Harwell to stay during its November meeting. But by a 57-54 margin members of the convention's executive committee refused to reinstate Harwell, forcing him to abide by his Dec. 31 retirement date.

Woman's Missionary Union

(Continued from page 3)

TUESDAY AFTERNOON

1:45 Presession Inspiration	Donna Robbins, Mary Simmons, Dot Pray
Hymns of Praise	Karen Hardy
Theme Interpretation	The Best Part Edwina Robinson
Musical Interlude	Donna Robbins
Prayer Calendar	Eleanor Burt
THE BEST PART... to us	Panel, Current Missionaries
Solo	Major McDaniel
Hymn	
Election of Executive Board	Jean Benton
Adoption of By-Laws	Gretta Lloyd
THE BEST PART... is all of us:	
Recognition of Centennial Chairmen	
Recognition of Distinguished WMU, Church/Associational	
THE BEST PART... to me	Jim Futral
Benediction	Karen Hardy



Powerline for teens

My teachers are boring

QUESTION

I've just gone back to school after dropping out for a while. I really want to finish my education, but I have lost all desire for school. My teachers are so boring and I can hardly make myself go to class. How can I make myself stick to something I hate?

ANSWER

It's frustrating to try to work at a task when you have lost enthusiasm for it. Self-discipline is the key to reaching your goals, but it may be hard to keep those goals in mind as you go through the day in, day out routine of school.

You say that you really want to finish your education. Why? The answer to that question can be

translated into goals. To get a good job? To make your family proud of you? To prove to yourself that you can do it? Whatever your motives, look at your schoolwork in the light of those goals. If you are enrolled in classes in which you have no interest, talk with your advisor or guidance counselor about finding at least one or two courses which relate to your own particular abilities or interests. Get involved in school activities which are enjoyable, such as music or drama or sports. This could give you something to look forward to at school and that might be the "spoonful of sugar that makes the medicine go down!"

Consider too that it's sometimes hard to get back into a routine, particularly if you no longer have a circle of friends in your classes. So give yourself time to make the adjustment and don't jump to any conclusions about school or your own abilities on the basis of the problems you are having right now. Ask God to strengthen you and give you the courage to follow through on these important goals.

Forces play tug-of-war with missions dollars

(Continued from page 3)

Missionary Union and Brotherhood, Southern Baptists' missions education and action programs for women and men, have kept Baptists informed and inspired about missions, motivating them to support the cause, Lewis says.

Nevertheless, the boundaries of mission support are not limitless. The Cooperative Program and the Annie Armstrong and Lottie Moon offerings have not met their goals in recent years. Some state Baptist conventions are holding the line on their budgets. Scores of domestic and overseas missions priorities go unmet.

Among factors that negatively affect missions giving are:

— Economic crisis. "The economy definitely has had an impact on mission support the past few years. You can't deny that," Smith reflects.

— State spending. Although some state conventions have sought to increase the percentage of their receipts that go to national and worldwide mission causes, others have had to freeze or cut back their SBC Cooperative Program allocations.

"I regret that because of the financial crisis some states have had to go backward," says Lewis. "Every state should have a goal of moving to at least a 50-50 percentage distribution (between state and conventionwide causes). When the Cooperative Program was first implemented, that was the thought, that funds would be divided evenly between state and worldwide causes."

— Church priorities. The state conventions' commitment to missions giving is insufficient if churches do not also support missions giving, Stringer adds, citing a "steady decline in the percentage of the church dollar going to mission needs."

"Missions giving always has competitors in the church budget: larger staffs, larger buildings, more expensive programming," he says.

That's what Ray calls "church

localism versus church globalism," or the tendency to "build a local empire without a global emphasis and responsibility."

And while local needs are vital, churches have a mandate to look beyond themselves, Lewis says. He thinks each Southern Baptist church should give a minimum of 10 percent of its budget to the Cooperative Program, promote the missions offerings and "think in terms of reproducing itself" by helping to start another church.

— Yuppie decision-makers. "Bottom-line people who make quick decisions" hurt missions giving, Stringer claims. "They want an immediate response, an immediate return on their investment" and are blinded by dollar signs, unable to see the spiritual rewards of missions.

Ray calls this the "two masters conflict," noting churches as well as individuals can love money too much. "We're letting the money pursuit override mission support. This erodes both the local church and beyond-the-church missions."

— Provincial pastors. "I'm a preacher by calling and profession, but the major obstacle we have in supporting missions is our pastors," Smith says. "They can talk about being missions-minded, but most of them are not, and this is reflected in the way their churches give to missions."

— Blind ignorance. Southern Baptists have an "uninformed and uneducated constituency," Ray says. "That ignorance level is catching up with us. What Baptists don't know about missions is hurting us."

A major factor in this is "the diminishing role allowed to Woman's Missionary Union in most of our churches," he suggests. "They have been the best voice in support of missions. Most missionaries grew out of our missions program. But increasingly we're giving this group a secondary

role, and that is ominous."

A corollary of this idea is that Southern Baptists now have a generation of church leaders who "have not been trained about cooperative missions," Stringer adds. "We have failed to communicate the evangelistic aspect of the Cooperative Program," he concedes. And for the bottom-line-oriented leaders, that has been an important oversight.

Translated into raw figures, that means only about 16 percent of Southern Baptist churches have organized, planned programs for stewardship enlistment, or the commitment of financial resources to missions causes, Ray reports. That leaves more than 80 percent of churches casting about with no plan for training their members and equipping them to support missions.

— Convention controversy. Application of this topic to mission support is controversial itself. One leader suggests Southern Baptists should not even ask whether almost 10 years of theological/political controversy has affected missions. But the question begs an answer.

Despite the divisiveness of the controversy and its eventual outcome, Southern Baptists face the challenge of continuing to support missions, Stringer says. "There's going to have to be a willingness on the part of Southern Baptists to give to missions, no matter who's in charge. This will be the test of cooperative giving, to see if we give, even with changes in leadership and direction."

"Meeting the challenge of Bold Mission Thrust is a costly goal," admits Carolyn Weatherford, national executive director of Woman's Missionary Union. "Yet Southern Baptist sights must remain on its missions purpose. We can't afford to be sidetracked from missions. Nothing can take precedence if we are to reach every person with the gospel message."

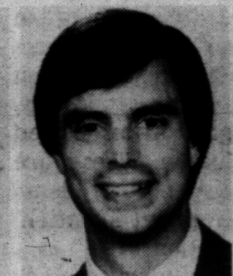
Marv Knox writes for BP.



Young



Werner



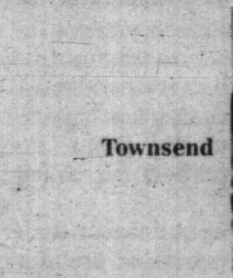
McDaniel



Smith



Hazelwood



Townsend

Gulfshore marks spot: student leader training

Spring training for leaders in Mississippi Baptist Student Union will take place April 8-10 at Gulfshore Baptist Assembly, Pass Christian.

Principal speakers include Jerry Young, Scott Werner, Emery Smith, David Hazelwood, and Duane McDaniel.

Young is pastor of New Hope Baptist Church, Jackson. Werner is a consultant in the church recreation department of the Baptist Sunday School Board. Smith is with the campus ministry department in the South Carolina Baptist Convention. Hazel-

wood is coordinator of planning and projects for the student ministry department of the Sunday School Board. And McDaniel is minister to single adults at Parkway Church, Jackson.

Music leader will be Cindy Townsend, minister to students at First Church, Jackson.

Special features of the conference include orientation for new officers in BSUs, intensive training labs, commissioning of summer missionaries, recreation, and family group time.

Carey tightens money belt

By Tim Nicholas

William Carey College trustees met behind closed doors last Thursday to improve the cash flow of the college.

In a called meeting of the board of trustees, the president, and the vice presidents, the group determined sources for raising \$300,000 by the end of the current school year. They also awarded faculty contracts for next year, cutting five full time positions including that of instructor C.J. Ward who had been vice president for business until Feb. 1 when he was moved from that office by January action of the trustees. And they gave 31 of the approximately 55 remaining full time faculty members raises for the next year.

Said President Ralph Noonkester in an interview after the board meeting, "At a time when you are tightening your belt, you just need the backing of the trustees." He said the cash flow picture needed to be improved by \$300,000 by the end of June. He said the freezes and cutbacks, some reported in last week's Baptist Record, account for \$50,000.

As for the rest of the needed money, "I'll do my responsibility with some larger givers to the college who are to underwrite this." Another \$75,000 is to be raised through the new development office which has about \$10,000 in hand already. And another \$25,000 to be raised by the alumni of-

fice. "The final \$50,000 has to be taken care of through additional cutbacks in expenditures or through additional income," said Noonkester.

Noonkester said the emergency moves are based on estimates of the executive committee of the trustees, the administration, and the auditors, "working carefully on where the college was at mid-year, with what's happening in endowment income and Cooperative Program support, and tuition from students," said Noonkester. "We have been able to project what the income is to be through June 30. The only thing we don't know is summer school income."

(Continued on page 6)

Thursday, March 3, 1988

Adams-Union plans conference on preaching

March 21 is the date for a conference on biblical preaching to be sponsored by the Adams and Union



Association and the Church Administration-Pastoral Ministries Department of the MBCB.

James Barry, senior preaching consultant with the Baptist Sunday School Board, will lead the conference which will take place at Parkway Church, Natchez.

The program begins at 10 a.m., March 21, and concludes that evening at 9.

Topics include "Calling People to Christ," "The Elements of Worship," and "Structuring the Biblical Sermon."



Mississippi evangelist officers

These are the officers of the Mississippi Baptist Evangelist Association. From left they are Alan Celoria, secretary-treasurer, Smithville; Gary Bowlin, vice president, Brandon; Tom Larrimore, president, Jackson; and Ronnie Cottingham, music director, Lucedale.

Representatives commend WMU

JACKSON, Miss. — The Mississippi House of Representatives has adopted a resolution commending the Woman's Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Convention for 100 years of dedicated service to God and mankind.

The resolution, introduced by Representative Tommy Reynolds and others, said the Woman's Missionary Union "has been an effective force in

the Mississippi Baptist Convention for over a century, starting even before the founding of the National WMU."

The National WMU was founded in 1888 in Richmond, Virginia, to teach mission work and support missions.

The resolution, which received unanimous approval in the House, said the Mississippi WMU has 74 associations among the 82 counties,

all of which plan special activities in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the National WMU.

Representative Reynolds said he was pleased to introduce the resolution honoring the WMU and its numerous contributions to the state and nation. Reynolds represents House District 32 in Grenada, Tallahatchie and Yalobusha counties.

House concurrent resolution No. 90

A CONCURRENT RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE WOMAN'S MISSIONARY UNION OF THE SOUTHERN BAPTIST CONVENTION FOR 100 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE TO GOD AND MANKIND.

WHEREAS, the Woman's Missionary Union (WMU) of the Southern Baptist Convention was founded in Richmond, Virginia, in 1888 to teach mission work and support missions, and the task of the WMU is to prepare young women to labor in "God's field"; and

WHEREAS, the Woman's Missionary Union instructs children, training youngsters as early as the preschool years, and allows preschool boys and girls to enroll in the Mission Friends Program; and

WHEREAS, the Woman's Mis-

sionary Union has been an effective force in the Mississippi Baptist Convention for over a century, starting even before the founding of the National WMU, and the Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union is currently directed by Marjean Patterson; and

WHEREAS, in 1987, the Mississippi Baptist Convention gave more than \$4 million to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering to support missions, which offering was named for a Southern Baptist Missionary who worked in China during the late 1800s and was instrumental in establishing the WMU, and Mississippians contributed \$1.7 million to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering, which offering was named for the first corresponding secretary of the National WMU; and

WHEREAS, the Mississippi WMU has 74 associations among its 82 counties, all of which plan to have special activities to celebrate the 100th year anniversary of the WMU, and the members of WMU plan to journey to Richmond, Virginia, in May 1988 to join in the national celebration:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI, THE SENATE CONCURRING THEREIN, That we commend the Woman's Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Convention for 100 years of dedicated service to God and mankind.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That copies of this resolution be furnished to the Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union and to the members of the Capitol Press Corps.

Carey tightens money belt

(Continued from page 5)

Billy McKay, trustee chairman, said, "We're never really out of the woods. Our most generous contributors — they want to know it's under control. We are admitting this. We are tightening our belt and bringing it under control." McKay pointed to similar problems at other institutions of higher learning. He said the University of Southern Mississippi was down 600 in full time enrollment from the previous spring semester.

McKay added, "Our loss has continued to be in full time residential students. The occupancy of the dorms on the coast and here (in Hattiesburg) both have to show decided improvement," or the school will face further adjustment in the fall.

Said McKay, "I hope you're going to see a pattern. We've blazed a trail. We've been trying to anticipate what has to be done as far as 1988-89 goes as well as dealing with our admitted

shortfall."

In other business, according to Noonkester, trustees elected faculty member Bennie Crockett to chair the Department of Religion to replace retiring William Clawson, and named James Simmons acting chair of the Department of English and Foreign Languages.

In a further attempt to save money, Noonkester gave up a lease car provided by the college.

Senate approves civil rights restoration act

By Kathy Palen

WASHINGTON (BP) — Legislation that would restore broad application of four civil rights laws has won U.S. Senate approval following a four-year struggle. Included was the "abortion-neutral" amendment.

Debates over abortion stalled previous legislative efforts that in effect would have overturned a 1984 U.S. Supreme Court decision, *Grove City College v. Bell*, that limited the enforcement of those civil rights statutes.

In that decision, the high court held that an education anti-discrimination ban applied only to the "program or activity" receiving federal funds, not the entire institution. Although the ruling directly applied to Title IX of the 1972 Education Act Amendments, it also restricted the enforcement of three other civil rights statutes that contain the same "program or activity" language.

The Civil Rights Restoration Act, as approved by the Senate 75-14, would again broaden the civil rights laws to cover entire institutions. Thus, if a college's English department received federal aid, the entire institution, including its athletic program, would be forced to comply with Title IX's anti-discrimination ban.

Abortion again dominated Senate debate on the legislation, with senators disagreeing over the bill's potential impact on abortion rights. Similar debates are expected when the U.S. House of Representatives takes up the measure.

Although neither the legislation nor Title IX mentions abortion, 1975 regulations — promulgated by the then-Department of Health, Education and Welfare — specify that schools receiving federal aid "shall treat pregnancy, childbirth, false pregnancy, termination of pregnancy and recovery therefrom in the same manner and under the same policies as any other temporary disability" in regard to leave, health services or insurance for students or employees.

In response to charges the legislation would expand abortion rights, Sen. John C. Danforth, R-Mo., introduced an amendment he called "abortion-neutral."

It states: "Nothing in this title shall be construed to require or prohibit any person; or public or private entity, to provide or pay for any benefit or service, including the use of facilities, related to an abortion."

Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit a penalty to be imposed on any person or individual because such person or individual is seeking or has received any benefit or service related to a legal abortion."

Sponsors of the legislation opposed the amendment, claiming it made substantive changes in existing law rather than just restoring previous coverage. But proponents of the Danforth amendment said the measure was necessary to ensure that colleges or hospitals religiously or morally opposed to abortion are not forced to fund or provide abortion services.

Following almost 10 hours of debate, the amendment passed 56-39.

The Southern Baptist Convention, during its annual meeting last June in St. Louis, passed a resolution calling for Senate approval of the Danforth amendment and urging the Southern Baptist Christian Life Commission to support the amendment.

"Victory on the Danforth amendment demonstrates what Southern Baptists can contribute on a social issue where widespread consensus prevails within the convention," said N. Larry Baker, CLC executive director. "Our staff's direct action and coordination of the lobbying effort by state Baptist leaders influenced six of the nine uncommitted Southern senators we targeted."

A number of clergy and laity deserve credit for exercising responsible Christian citizenship."

Baptist Joint Committee general counsel Thomas Oliver suggested problems not solved. "For example, the bill makes no distinction between direct federal subsidy and indirect financial assistance in the form of student aid. It seems patently unfair to treat a college that accepts a multi-million dollar federal grant in the same manner as a college that has steadfastly refused federal funding but simply has a student who is on the GI bill. There should be no religious exemption for those who receive direct federal aid. There should be a broader exemption for those that refuse it."

Kathy Palen writes for the Baptist Joint Committee.

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Home missions

(Continued from page 2)

Prayer is easy to talk about and promise. It is something else to deliver. Home missions work and home missionaries, however, are heroic in every sense of the word. They need and deserve our prayers.

The scripture for the week is Acts 28:30-31. It tells of Paul preaching from his own home.

Surely that is a pattern for home missions.

The Week of Prayer for Home Missions and the Annie Armstrong offering are sponsored by the Woman's Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Convention and in the states.



Faces And Places

by anne washburn mcwilliams



The mayor of Lexington

"What I try to do is to make people feel better." Besides Bible studies and devotional thoughts on her radio program, Fanny Mae Cothran includes prayers for the governor and other elected officials. She's been doing the 9:30 a.m. "Coke Break" on WXTN, Lexington, for 28 years. "I encourage people to be cheerful," she says, "and to realize we can always find something good about life every day."

The celebrated radio personality and owner of WXTN was elected mayor of Lexington in 1985, the first woman to win that job. Before that, she was the first woman on her city's Board of Aldermen, and she's a former Holmes County member of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Some of the men in Lexington who didn't want her to run for mayor, she remembers, said women should be subject to their husbands. When she talked this over with her pastor, Michael O'Brien of First Baptist, Lexington, she told him, "I am subject to my husband, but the Bible doesn't say, 'Be subject to all the men in Lexington.'" Being a woman has never bothered or stopped her. "There's no limit on God," she maintains, assurance in her blue eyes.

Standing erect in her beige knit dress and a jaunty blue and orange scarf, she unlocks the door of her office at City Hall. "I have no set hours as mayor, but I go when and where I'm needed for appointments or projects."

She continues, "My goal is to make Lexington a safe place for people to enjoy living the abundant life." Under her leadership, a nursing home has been built in the city, the business community has expanded, and city indebtedness has been paid off. A highway by-pass is under construction. "When we try to do our work ourselves, we get frustrated. It doesn't matter what you do, if you abandon self and let the Lord do the work, he will make it easy. He goes before and after."

Born Fanny Tidwell in Lexington, she was one of a family of four boys and five girls. At 15 she was converted while Jud Chastain was preaching a revival in her town. When the two preachers were coming to visit at her house, she told her sister to tell them she was not there.

"Tell them yourself," her sister said, not willing to lie.

When the evangelist found her under a tree in the yard, he asked if she wanted to trust Jesus and be saved. Immediately she burst into tears and said yes. (Until this day, the thing she hates most is to hear someone tell a lie.)

After she had married Thomas A. Cothran, an independent grocer, and they had three children and faced a time of financial problems, she remembers, "I made a real commitment to the Lord." She found a job as church secretary at First, Lexington, (this she kept for ten years, when Paul



Fanny Mae Cothran

Bragg was pastor) and told her family, "From now on, you are second. The Lord is first." Looking back, she says, "And he has blessed me more than I could have ever imagined."

Her husband of 45 years is now retired. Their five children are Thomas, lieutenant colonel in the Air Force; Annette (Henley); Babs (Edwards); Michael (deceased); and Brad Maurice. There are 11 grandchildren. Michael died in an automobile accident in 1973 while he was minister of music at Hanging Moss Baptist Church in Jackson.

"The Lord knows what he is doing, and we trust him," Fanny says. "I don't think of Michael as dead. He is more alive than he has ever been. I don't get to see him or touch him for awhile, but I know he is in God's presence. When another of my sons was in Spain, I could not see him, but I knew he was there and that I would see him again." At first, though, after Michael died, she was so torn that she thought, "I can't live like this," and she remembers that she stopped the car one day and prayed, "Lord, you just take charge." And she adds, "He did. And since that time, I have known the greatest joy in serving him."

Around 1960, she began work at the radio station as secretary for \$40 a week; in less than two years she became manager. A few years ago she bought the station.

Through her radio work she has striven for racial harmony. "The station gave me a door to the black community," she says. Saint's College, Arenia C. Mallory, president, awarded her an honorary Doctor of Humanities degree. Since she began work at the station, five young men, some black, some white, have left employment there to enter the gospel ministry. Though she admits to racial disharmony in Lexington at one time,

especially in the 60s, she thinks it was somewhat overplayed. "Now we have mutual respect for one another."

She was the first woman to be president of the Mississippi Broadcasters' Association. In 1973 she was named as the governor's "Outstanding Mississippian;" Fanny Cothran Day was proclaimed in the state June 20, 1973.

Mixing religion and politics, she says, is no trouble to her. "Christians are Christians, wherever they are."

She enters a house with a wide porch and white columns. Inside, there's a restaurant. She stops to chat with other patrons and waves to still others across the room. Seated at a table with a pink cloth, and finishing a piece of apple pie, she says, "If I retired, I might find myself becoming a hermit. I am happiest when I am with my husband, and I might spend my days refinishing furniture." Her two-story white house is one of many handsome old houses in Lexington, and she has a good collection of antiques. Crocheting she likes well enough that she thus made all her Christmas ornaments.

But for the present she is involved in community service. She teaches a young women's Sunday School class, the Seekers. Particularly she likes to teach I John and is memorizing the whole book. "If my Bible were taken from me and I had only I John, I believe I could use it to win people to Christ."

The goal of my life," says Fanny, "is to be one in Christ Jesus. That's the only way he can demonstrate his life to the world. If we are not one in him, we are inaccurate demonstrations of him. Some people say that sounds like a pretty impossible goal. But it can be reached. If he lives in me, then I will be a vehicle. That should be the reality of our lives."

HMB employs coordinator for abortion alternatives

By Joe Westbury

ATLANTA (BP) — Directors of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board have employed the agency's first coordinator for abortion alternatives and were challenged to volunteer for missions service. Sylvia Marlene Boothe of Oklahoma City was named to the new position in the board's mission ministries division by directors during their February executive committee meeting. A former music missionary to Thailand and France, Boothe has been director of a crisis pregnancy center in Oklahoma City since 1986. She is a graduate of Oklahoma College of Liberal Arts and Texas Woman's University.

Board President Larry Lewis noted the position was created in response to a motion from messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention in 1984, who requested abortion alternative counseling and materials for use by associations, churches, and state conventions.

"Many Southern Baptists feel strongly that the critical social and moral issue of our day is the issue of abortion," Lewis said. "More than one-and-a-half million babies are

destroyed every year, any one of them with unlimited potential. We see as part of our ministry the need to minister to the unborn child whose life is under threat and to the mother with the unwanted pregnancy."

Although Lewis previously had stated it is not the agency's place to speak on the morality and ethics of the abortion issue, he does feel strongly it is the board's responsibility to minister to people who are affected by it, both born and unborn.

The directors also employed Eduardo Docampo of Boston as associate director in the ethnic church growth department. Docampo has been director of language missions and Brotherhood for the Baptist Convention of New England for the past three years.

In his report to the board, Lewis expressed concern over the decrease in the number of home mission volunteers in 1987.

Directors also appointed 16 missionaries, 13 church planter apprentices, 16 missionary associates, and 15 mission pastors.

Joe Westbury writes for the HMB.

Devotional

Motivations for ministry

By Kara Blackard

I Cor. 15:1-11

I think we all agree that the Apostle Paul was one of the most successful Christians of all time. His experiences had an aura about them that could only be explained in terms of Divine Presence. God was with him!

The zeal in Paul's life was unquenchable. In the presence of kings and magistrates, in dungeons and prisons, in good times and bad times, he stood unshaken. But how? Today men are leaving the ministry by droves. What kept Paul on the firing line? I think basically three things:

I. A call he couldn't deny: I Timothy 1:12 says: "And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, Who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry."

There you have it. Paul had been put into the ministry by Jesus Christ. He didn't decide to start preaching, so he didn't have to worry about deciding to quit! When the storms raged and the night grew dark, Paul was even mindful of that call he could never deny. How thankful we should be today for men who are motivated to preach by the Spirit of God: men who are faithful unto death because he Who called them is faithful.

II. A concern he couldn't diminish: I Corinthians 9:19-22. There is a second reason why Paul endured the hardships and sufferings of the ministry when he could have "eased up" and been more comfortable. The answer is in I Cor. 9:22, "... I am made all things to all men that I might by all means save some." To put it simply, he was motivated by a concern for the lost. In Rom. 10:1 he states, "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they might be saved." His desire in life was to reach the lost for Christ. That was priority. Those who are effective in soul winning today are still those who join Paul in having a concern they can never diminish.

III. A commitment he couldn't despise: Philippians 1:21: "For me to live is Christ..."

Paul's commitment was to the Living Christ. His loyalty to the church and to the people of God was borne out of love for his Saviour. He was committed to him.

It is tragically possible to be committed to the "things" of God without being committed to him. Our day is no stranger to many who are committed to the church but not to the Christ. The proof lies in the fact that for this group it only takes one disappointing experience at church and then you can't find them with radar. This happens when one's loyalty is to the church instead of her Builder. But, oh, how different when one's commitment is to Jesus Christ! Then we no longer have a need to go around defending our rights and getting hurt. Our love for the church and the things of God will be borne out of our commitment to the One of Whom Pilate said, "I find no fault in him!"

Kara Blackard is pastor, Wheeler Grove Church, Alcorn County.

Hispanics plan rally for June

SAN ANTONIO, Texas (BP) — A trend among Hispanics to take a greater role in Southern Baptist life will surface prior to the denomination's annual session here, June 14-16. A central crusade tentatively has been scheduled for June 5-8 and will be followed by revival meetings June 9-12 in about 40 Hispanic churches. The emphasis will climax on the afternoon of June 12 with an evangelistic rally expected to attract 1,500 Hispanics. The strongest indicator of the ethnic group's growing denominational involvement will be a one-day seminar scheduled for June 13, the Monday before the annual SBC session begins. The workshop, with the theme "Equipping Hispanic Ministers for Growth," will be the first such venture sponsored by the national Hispanic fellowship.

Daniel Sotelo of Fresno, Calif., president of the conference, said the seminar will educate Hispanics on biblical principles of church growth and will dovetail with Southern Baptist Home Mission Board goals of starting new churches. The workshop will be held on the campus of Hispanic Baptist Theological Seminary in San Antonio.

Life seems to come along, sometime, and removes a vital part of us. Disarranged, we're in torment and God reaches in and begins to replace that with a vision of things that are quite different. From our lives of the past, new faces, fresh starts, new hopes, voices, sights, and sounds, and sometimes even a ROSE; he never leaves us like we were and we'll never be the same, always better, brighter, fuller, far beyond our fondest dreams. It's in these situations we're made aware that he is able to restore our smiles; our joy, and a deep happiness that we thought we had all along.

Southern Baptist Convention

Henry Gonzales Convention Center
San Antonio, Texas
June 14-16, 1988

Theme: "Pour Out Revival"

Scripture: "O Lord, revive Thy work" — Habakkuk 3:2

Tuesday Morning, June 14

- 8:30 Music for Inspiration, Bellevue Baptist Church Choir and Orchestra, Memphis, Tenn.; Jim Whitmire, director
- 8:50 Call to Order Congregational Singing, John McKay, convention music director, Keller, Texas
- 8:55 Prayer, Terry W. Arnold, pastor, First Church, Carson City, Nev.
- 9:00 Registration Report and Constitution of Convention, Lee Porter, registration secretary; design editor, Sunday School department, Sunday School Board, Nashville
- 9:05 Committee on Order of Business
- 9:10 Welcome, Mayor Henry Cisneros of San Antonio
- 9:15 Response, Rudy Hernandez, pastor, Metro Baptist Church, San Antonio
- 9:20 Announcement of Committee on Committees, Credentials, Resolutions and Tellers
- 9:25 Theme Interpretation, "Pour Out Revival in My Heart," Roy Fish, professor, Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth
- 9:45 Executive Committee Report (Part 1), Harold C. Bennett, president and treasurer, Nashville
- 10:45 Introduction of Business and Resolutions
- 11:15 Congregational Singing, John McKay
- 11:20 Music, Bellevue Baptist Church Choir and Orchestra
- 11:25 President's Address, Adrian P. Rogers, pastor, Bellevue Church, Memphis
- 12:00 Benediction, David C. Brown, pastor, Desert Hills Church, Las Vegas, Nev.

Tuesday Afternoon, June 14

- 1:00 Evangelistic Singers, Pat Roper, music evangelist, Greenville, S.C., presiding
- 2:00 Congregational Singing, Pat Roper
- 2:05 Prayer, David Doyel, pastor, Twin Lakes Baptist Church, Las Vegas
- 2:10 Messenger Information Survey, Martin B. Bradley, recording secretary; director, research services department, Sunday School Board, Nashville
- 2:20 Introduction of Business and Resolutions
- 2:30 Election of Officers (First)
- 2:45 Committee on Nominations Report, Joe Knott III, chairman, Raleigh, N.C.
- 3:00 Congregational Singing, Paul Paschal, minister of music, North Richland Hills Church, Fort Worth
- 3:05 Executive Committee Report (Part 2), Harold C. Bennett
- 4:00 Congregational Singing
- 4:05 Business — Committee on Committees Report, Introduction of Business and Resolutions, Miscellaneous Business
- 4:45 Election of Officers (Second)
- 5:00 Benediction, Neal J. Myers, director of missions, Sierra Baptist Association, Reno, Nev.

Tuesday Evening, June 14

- 6:30 Music for Inspiration, Sagemont Church Choir and Orchestra, Houston; Bill Cole, director
- 7:00 Congregational Singing, John McKay
- 7:05 Prayer, Johnny Jackson, executive director, Paul Jackson Evangelist Association, Little Rock
- 7:10 Election of Officers (Third)
- 7:20 Theme Interpretation, "Pour Out Revival in My Home," Ruffin Snow, pastor, Eastwood Church, Tulsa
- 7:40 Bold Mission Thrust Report, Harold C. Bennett
- 7:50 Woman's Missionary Union Report, Carolyn Weatherford, executive director, Birmingham, Ala.
- 8:05 Peace Committee Report, Charles G. Fuller, chairman; pastor, First Church, Roanoke, Va.
- 8:35 Congregational Singing, Sam Prestidge, director of church music, Baptist General Convention of Texas, Dallas
- 8:40 Home Mission Board Report, Larry L. Lewis, president, Atlanta
- 9:40 Benediction, Jon L. Sapp, missionary to Chipata, Zambia, furloughing in Topeka, Kan.

Wednesday Morning, June 15

- 8:30 Music for Inspiration, Travis Avenue Church Choir and Orchestra, Fort Worth; Bill Pearson, director
- 8:50 Congregational Singing, Monte Nichols, minister of music, Peachtree Church, Atlanta
- 8:55 Prayer, Robert G. Holmes, pastor, First Southern Church, Henderson, Nev.
- 9:00 Election of Officers (Fourth)
- 9:15 Theme Interpretation, "Pour Out Revival on the Household of Faith," O.D. Shook, Champion Forest Church, Houston
- 9:35 Congregational Singing, Sonny Stroud, minister of music, Calvary Temple, Savannah, Ga.
- 9:40 Sunday School Board Report, Lloyd Elder, president, Nashville
- 10:15 Commission on American Baptist Theological Seminary Report, Arthur L. Walker Jr., secretary-treasurer, Nashville
- 10:25 Historical Commission Report, Lynn E. May Jr., executive director-treasurer, Nashville
- 10:35 Radio and Television Commission Report, Jimmy R. Allen, president, Fort Worth
- 10:45 "Here's Hope. Jesus Cares For You. A Message of Life from Southern Baptists for Las Vegas & Nevada, 1989," Larry L. Lewis
- 10:55 Report of Southern Baptist Convention Canada Planning Group, Larry L. Lewis
- 11:05 Congregational Singing, Pat Roper
- 11:10 Election of Officers (Fifth)
- 11:25 Business — Committee on Resolutions (First Report), Miscellaneous Business
- 11:55 Congregational Singing, John McKay
- 12:00 Special Music, Travis Avenue Church Choir and Orchestra Convention Sermon, Joel Gregory, pastor, Travis Avenue Church
- 12:30 Benediction, Stanley D. Unruh, retired minister, Sunrise Church, Las Vegas

Church starters face barriers in Boston

By Leisa Hammett-Goad

BOSTON — Dan McMillan laughed when he met David and Betsy Draper and learned the young Floridians were missionaries serving in Boston.

The heir of the McMillan publishing firm thought it even funnier when the Drapers explained they were Southern Baptist missionaries. McMillan predicted the Drapers would live in Boston six months before they flew South where Southern Baptists belong.

That was more than two years ago. The Drapers are still serving in Boston and McMillan believes in them, their ministry, in Southern Baptists and the God they serve.

But not all New England church starters' experiences have such storybook endings.

When Brent Ryland, church starter in Keene, N.H., invited a woman to worship, she seemed interested until she learned that he was Southern Baptist. The woman then said she was not interested because she knew what Southern Baptists believe.

Other people have responded to Ryland similarly. Their ideas, he believes, are based

on the widely covered Southern Baptist controversy. The Drapers also hurdle perceptions about Southern Baptists. Many Bostonians believe all Southern Baptists' standard wardrobe is kerchiefs and overalls, says Betsy.

Communicating who they are — as representatives of Southern Baptists — has been a learning experience for both the Drapers and their neighbors.

The couple introduced their denomination by starting the first Anglo Southern Baptist church in inner city Boston. Several ethnic missions exist, but Beacon Hill, an exclusive blue-blood neighborhood in the heart of Boston, was without a Southern Baptist witness until the Drapers.

To establish a Southern Baptist presence, the young Floridians found living in Beacon Hill essential to their ministry. Still, it has been a long, slow, constant process, says David.

To learn how they could meet the community's needs, the Drapers conducted door to door surveys, a process they started two years ago and are still conducting because Beacon Hill

has 10,000 row houses. Unlike in the South, says Betsy, a stranger is not invited in for a cup of coffee. Instead, the Drapers are left the frustrating option, she explains, of shouting into outdoor intercoms.

But the Drapers learned yelling into an intercom is the only way they will be able to introduce themselves, their church and ministry to neighborhood residents. Others, they meet on the streets. "Each time we leave our apartment we're ambassadors for Christ," says Betsy. "They know who we are and what we're doing."

Ryland, wife Sarah and church starter Zane Pratt in Topsfield, Mass., discovered community events are successful ways to meet the neighbors. Several of Calvary Baptist Church's 22 members joined as result of the Rylands' participation in a town fair. The Louisiana couple offered free balloons and water and made information on Southern Baptists and family concerns available. A councilman stopped by the booth, scanned the literature and told Brent he did not realize who Southern Baptists were and

was sorry the council denied Brent's request to hold worship in a vacant chapel.

After months with no permanent location, Calvary meets in a former teen pool hall and video arcade. Through a Home Mission Board loan, the church recently purchased a one-acre site for \$49,900.

To meet the community, Pratt capitalizes on town celebrations. North of Boston, Topsfield is the home of the oldest county fair in the United States.

Larry Martin, Greater Boston Baptist Association's director of missions, has joined Pratt and church members at several of those festivals. Martin's 19-year-old trick horse, Gold Dust, however, usually steals the show. Martin uses Gold Dust to attract attention and entertain as he shares the gospel message.

One chance may be all the Drapers, Rylands and Pratt have with many New Englanders. With others they will never have that opportunity. But that motivates New England's more than 25 church starters.

Lisa Hammett-Goad writes for WMU, SBC.

tion: San Antonio, Texas

WEDNESDAY AFTERNOON SESSION

Wednesday Evening, June 15

- 6:30 Music for Inspiration, Cathedral Quartet, Nashville
- 6:55 Congregational Singing, John McKay
- 7:00 Prayer, Jim McLeroy, pastor, First Southern Church, Las Vegas
- 7:05 Theme Interpretation, "Pour Out Revival on My Homeland," Bobby Welch, pastor, First Church, Daytona Beach, Fla.
- 7:25 Business — Election of Convention Sermon Preacher and Alternate and Music Director, 1989
- 7:30 Introduction of Local Arrangements Committee
- 7:35 Presentation of Past Presidents
- 7:45 Presentation of Newly Elected SBC Officers
- 7:50 Planned Growth in Giving Report, Cecil E. Ray, national director, Georgetown, Texas
- 8:00 Congregational Singing, Rod Salmon, minister of music, First Church, Moore, Okla.
- 8:05 Foreign Mission Board Report, R. Keith Parks, president, Richmond, Va.
- 9:35 Benediction, Patrick McCurdy, pastor, Shearer Hills Church, San Antonio

Thursday Morning, June 16

- 8:30 Music for Inspiration, First Church Choir and Orchestra, Euless, Texas; Robert Wagoner, director
- 8:50 Congregational Singing, John McKay
- 8:55 Prayer, James Carey, pastor, Lackland Church, San Antonio
- 9:00 Business — Committee on Resolutions (Final Report)
- 10:00 Midwestern Seminary Report, Milton Ferguson, president, Kansas City, Mo.
- 10:10 Southeastern Seminary Report, W. Randall Lolley, president, Wake Forest, N.C.
- 10:20 Stewardship Commission Report, A.R. Fagan, president, Nashville
- 10:30 Congregational Singing, Mike Speck, music evangelist, Tulsa
- 10:35 Southern Baptist Foundation Report, Hollis E. Johnson III, executive director, Nashville
- 10:45 Christian Life Commission Report, N. Larry Baker, executive director, Nashville
- 10:55 Brotherhood Commission Report, James H. Smith, president, Memphis
- 11:05 Education Commission Report, Arthur L. Walker Jr., executive director, Nashville
- 11:15 Golden Gate Seminary Report, William Crews, president, Mill Valley, Calif.
- 11:25 Annuity Board Report, Darold H. Morgan, president, Dallas
- 11:35 New Orleans Seminary Report, Landrum P. Leavell II, president, New Orleans
- 11:45 Recognition of Outgoing Officers
- 11:50 Congregational Singing, John McKay
- 12:00 Address by President Ronald Reagan, Invited Guest Speaker
- 12:20 Benediction, Jack Schmid, pastor, Village Parkway Church, San Antonio

Thursday Afternoon, June 16

- 2:00 Music for Inspiration, New Song, Atlanta
- 2:25 Congregational Singing, Pat Roper
- 2:30 Prayer, Ruben Hernandez, international evangelist and staff evangelist, Metro Church, San Antonio
- 2:35 Introduction of Fraternal Representatives
- 2:40 Committee on Denominational Calendar Report, James A. Green Jr., chairman, Jal, N.M.
- 2:50 Public Affairs Committee Report, Samuel Currin, chairman, Raleigh
- 3:00 Denominational Press Report, Alvin C. Shackelford, vice president for public relations, SBC Executive Committee, Nashville
- 3:10 Southern Seminary Report, Roy L. Honeycutt, president, Louisville, Ky.
- 3:20 Southwestern Seminary Report, Russell H. Dilday Jr., president, Fort Worth
- 3:30 Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs Report, James M. Dunn, executive director, Washington
- 3:40 Baptist World Alliance Report, Gerhard Claas, general secretary, McLean, Va.
- 3:50 American Bible Society Report, John D. Erickson, general secretary, New York
- 4:00 Business
- 4:30 Adjournment
- Benediction, Ronnie W. Floyd, pastor, First Church, Springdale, Ark.

Convention Officers

- Adrian P. Rogers, president; pastor, Bellevue Church, Memphis
- Jack Stanton, first vice president; director, institute of evangelism, Southwest Baptist University, Bolivar, Mo.
- Victor M. Kaneubbe, second vice president; retired pastor, Phoenix, Ariz.
- Martin B. Bradley, recording secretary; manager, research services department, Sunday School Board, Nashville
- Lee Porter, registration secretary; design editor, Sunday School department, Sunday School Board, Nashville
- Harold C. Bennett, treasurer; president, Executive Committee, Nashville
- Alvin C. Shackelford, press representative; vice president for public relations, Executive Committee, Nashville
- John McKay, music director; music evangelist, Fort Worth

Committee On Order Of Business

- Thomas D. Elliff, chairman; pastor, First Southern Church, Del City, Okla.
- Reed Larson, organization executive, Annandale, Va.
- Reuel May Jr., dentist, member, First Church, Jackson, Miss.
- W.A. (Pat) Patterson, savings and loan officer, Overland Park, Kan.
- Dwight Reighard, pastor, New Hope Church, Fayetteville, Ga.
- Adrian P. Rogers, SBC president; pastor, Bellevue Baptist Church, Memphis
- John B. Wright, pastor, First Church, Little Rock, Ark.

Thursday, March 3, 1988

Vines will be candidate, SBC president

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. (BP) — Jerry Vines will be a candidate for president of the Southern Baptist Convention this year, according to his copastor at First Church, here.

Homer Lindsay Jr. made the announcement Monday, Feb. 15, during an impromptu address on the upcoming convention in San Antonio, Texas. Lindsay spoke to an afternoon session of the annual Pastors' School and Bible Conference at his church.

"You want to know who my candidate is," Lindsay said. "Let me tell you. My candidate is Jerry Vines."

Contacted later in the day, Vines said he has made no final decision about allowing his nomination. "Many people have asked me about it," he acknowledged, "and I've agreed to pray about it." Vines said he wants to "do God's will" in the matter. Richard Jackson, pastor of North Phoenix (Ariz.) Church, has announced he would allow his name to be nominated. He is expected to receive the support of the moderates in the convention.

"Richard Jackson is my friend," Lindsay told the pastors in Florida. "Theologically, he is one of us, but he's aligned himself with the liberals, the moderates, and the wrong crowd. He deserves to be defeated."

Lindsay urged the pastors at the Jacksonville meeting to recruit four other pastors who will take 10 messengers each to the convention in June.

"The real reason baptisms are declining in the Southern Baptist Convention," said Lindsay, "is because liberals are taking over the pastorates in the churches. That's why we cannot afford to lose in San Antonio, because we're still the majority. But you give these seminaries enough time, brother, and we'll be in the minority."



In Boston's public garden, church starter David Draper (left) talks with Don Southard, a student at Massachusetts College of Art. Draper and other home missionaries have become per-

manent fixtures on the New England landscape and are convincing residents they are serious about their long-term commitment to the area. (HMB Photo by Bill Bangham)

Sunday School Board offers 1-800 ordering

By Jim Lowry

NASHVILLE (BP)—Ordering materials from the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board is now as simple as 1-800.

Since March 1, churches and individuals have been able to dial 1-800-458-BSSB and order church literature materials and almost any other item in any Sunday School Board catalog.

The toll-free expanded order system is being offered as a response to church requests as part of a new emphasis on customer service, said David Wilkins, manager of the customer services center.

Items available on toll-free ordering include Vacation Bible School materials, Convention Press books and materials, January Bible Study materials, Broadman books and supplies, and all dated and undated church literature items.

Some custom-made items — such

as choir robes, church signs or steeples — which require technical product knowledge to order and price accurately will not be available on the toll-free number, Wilkins said. Callers interested in these items will be referred to another number.

Another part of the new marketing effort is the "easy church order system," a software program for churches for use on IBM or compatible computers to order literature or other materials that are available on the toll-free lines.

The easy church order system is available to churches for no charge and is also offered to customers in Baptist Book Stores. Churches using the easy ordering system can use a telephone modem or mail the disk to the customer service center.

Jim Lowry writes for the Sunday School Board.



Letters to the editor

Letters to the editor must be limited to 300 words and the editor reserves the right to trim those that are longer. Editorial prerogatives must be reserved under all circumstances, and the opinions of the letter writers do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff of the Baptist Record. Only signed letters will be used, but the writer may request that his name be withheld.

Thanks for great editorial

Editors:

Thank you for carrying Grady C. Cothen's article in your "Guest Opinion" column in the Feb. 11 issue of the Baptist Record. Dr. Cothen said a number of things that needed saying. I hope that Mississippi Baptists will read the article and then raise their voices in protest to the direction that the Southern Baptist Convention is taking. It is time for both laymen and clergy to speak out on this matter.

G. B. Beard
Jackson

Preaching in the Philippines

Editor:

Recently, many of our friends have written us expressing their concern for our safety here in the Philippines. Evidently, the news media there are reporting only the most dramatic political events here such as the incident outside Clark Air Force Base last fall and events surrounding the recent elections. According to Jerry Rankin, our area director, the negative news reports there could be affecting some potential missionaries to consider other places of services.

I am writing to assure you and your readers there that we are in no danger at all here in Tarlac and in Central Luzon. Also, none of the recent events have interfered with our work. Some of our missionaries in Mindanao report they cannot travel at night, but here in Tarlac we can go anywhere at any time.

If anything, the climate here is even more ripe than ever for preaching and evangelism. Factors such as economic depression and political insecurity has made the Filipino people

of all ages and economic levels wide open to the gospel. For example, after a recent film crusade in a village close by, there were more than 150 who came forward during the invitation. We are now involved in the harder work of following up the results.

Certainly, there is political unrest in the Philippines. However, remember these are isolated incidents reported by media looking for good stories. Just as your readers are not directly affected by every terrible event reported in New York City, we are not endangered by all the political activity in Manila.

Pray for us, surely, and pray for the political stability of the Philippines. However, as a first-term church planter in the Philippines, I can say without exaggeration that there is no better place to preach the gospel than here. Some people ask how often I can preach, and I can truly say the opportunities are unlimited. For any of your readers, who are considering a missionary calling to the Philippines, I would say to them, "Sique" ("Go ahead").

I was a pastor in Mississippi for six years, 1978-1983.

Roy L. McKay
Philippine Baptist Mission

Sunday shopping

Editor:

As the risk of sounding pious and/or self-righteous, I would like to address a subject which, I believe, needs some attention. This subject is how we as Christians, and Baptists in particular, treat the Lord's Day.

I realize that most of us in the Christian community worship and rest on Sunday as opposed to Saturday — still, most of us seem to feel that the basic

principles of the Sabbath in the Old Testament are applicable to our Lord's Day observance on Sunday.

In spite of these beliefs, most of our behavior, even those of us in the full-time ministry, is questionable as related to Sunday. Most of us do take time to worship, rest, and have family time as prescribed in Ex. 20; but I question our seeming oblivion to the fact that we often, by our practices, make it impossible for many others to have the same opportunities on the Lord's Day. We all believe in the Golden Rule, "Whatsoever ye would that men should do to you, do ye even so to them." But what are we saying to those who are employees of retail establishments when we patronize them on Sunday? Do we not feel it is necessary for them also to keep Sunday holy, separate, or special?

I have heard such arguments as, "They are open anyway because some in our society do not believe in a holy Lord's Day." What kind of theology is this that we let the actions of non-believers influence ours?

The proper observance of a common day of worship and rest would make a difference in the lives of our Christian brothers and sisters who currently have to work Sundays. As stated by Elton Trueblood in *The Recovery of Family Life*, "The growing tendency for great corporations, such as the chain grocery stores, to operate seven days a week is a threat to family life. The persons employed are, of course, given at least one day each week to be at home; but usually the days are so staggered that it is almost impossible for family occasions to be planned and carried out." Would it not make a difference if all of us who name the name of Jesus as Lord and Savior were to simply cut out any unnecessary Sunday shopping?

Terry Cutrer, pastor
South Louisville Baptist Church
Louisville

Impossible without God

Editor:

One of our greatest privileges and responsibilities as American citizens is to preserve and protect the priceless heritage of freedom that our forbears bequeathed to us and to pass it on unblemished and undiminished to our children and to generations yet unborn.

In order to effectively guard that which has been committed to our trust, we must pay unfeigned and active allegiance to the fact that, "Righteousness exalteth a nation: but sin is a reproach to any people" (Prov. 14:34).

Many years ago, a notable official in Washington, D.C., heavy-laden with concern for the future of this great nation, said: "The forces of decency in our country have failed in many respects to live up to their duties and responsibilities. What has happened to the time-honored precepts of hard work and fair play, which influenced the American scene during the all-important formative years of this nation? Where is the faith in God which fortified us through our past trials? Have our national pride, our moral conscience, our sensitivity to evil, grown so weak that they no longer react to assaults upon our proud

heritage of freedom?"

It is equally as true today as it was in the early ages of The United States of America that, "It is impossible to rightly govern the world without God and the Bible" (George Washington).

George F. Raines
Newton

Bi-vocational pastors needed

Dear Editor:

Our church of about 40 members is in need of a bi-vocational pastor. We can afford a small salary. We are the only Southern Baptist church in our small town of 6,700 population. We are located directly on the banks of the famous Yellowstone River, noted for mouth watering rainbow trout and located in the most beautiful mountain valley that the Lord ever made. We are also within 56 miles of Yellowstone National Park. Big game hunting is splendid all around us.

We love our church and are fighting for her survival. We would be so appreciative if you would publish our humble letter in our search for the man God has waiting for us.

Please have applications sent to Absaroka Heights Baptist Church, 610 North 10th, Livingston, Montana 59047. Or the further information, please call my home at 406/222-3387, or contact Dave Haug at 406/222-3836. Thank you.

Jim Wheatley
A.H.B.C. member
Pastor search team

Answered prayer

Editor:

In the Feb. 18 issue of the Baptist Record a letter was printed concerning a young man in our church named Alan Priest, who was to have heart surgery. The letter was published after God had already performed a wonderful miracle in Alan's life.

The first day that Alan and his family were at Birmingham University Medical Center tests were run to verify the results of tests done on Alan in Jackson in November. The tests done in Jackson indicated that surgery was needed immediately. The tests done in Birmingham a few months later indicate that Alan's condition has improved so much that surgery is not needed right away. There is no medical reason why his condition should have improved. Alan has since shared with his family that while we were all praying that God would be with him through his surgery he was praying that he would not have to have it. God answered the prayer of faith of an 11-year-old, and we have all been touched by Alan's example of simple faith in The Great Physician.

The family would like to thank everyone for the cards, letters, donations, and prayers on behalf of Alan. Please continue to pray for them as the doctors feel that Alan will need the surgery to replace a heart valve within the next few years. The remaining funds and those which may accrue in the future are being placed in a trust fund for Alan at the Pike County Bank in McComb, MS, to cover any expenses for treatment or surgery in the future.

Marvin Howard, pastor
Mt. Zion Baptist Church
Smithdale, MS

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These models are free, so we suggest you write for yours now. Again, we repeat, there is no cost, and certainly no obligation. All hearing problems are not alike and some cannot be helped by a hearing aid but many can. So, send for your free model now. Thousands have already been mailed, so be sure to send your name, address and phone number today to Dept. 14273, Beltone Electronics, 4201 West Victoria Street, Chicago, Illinois 60646.

Offer not valid in California.

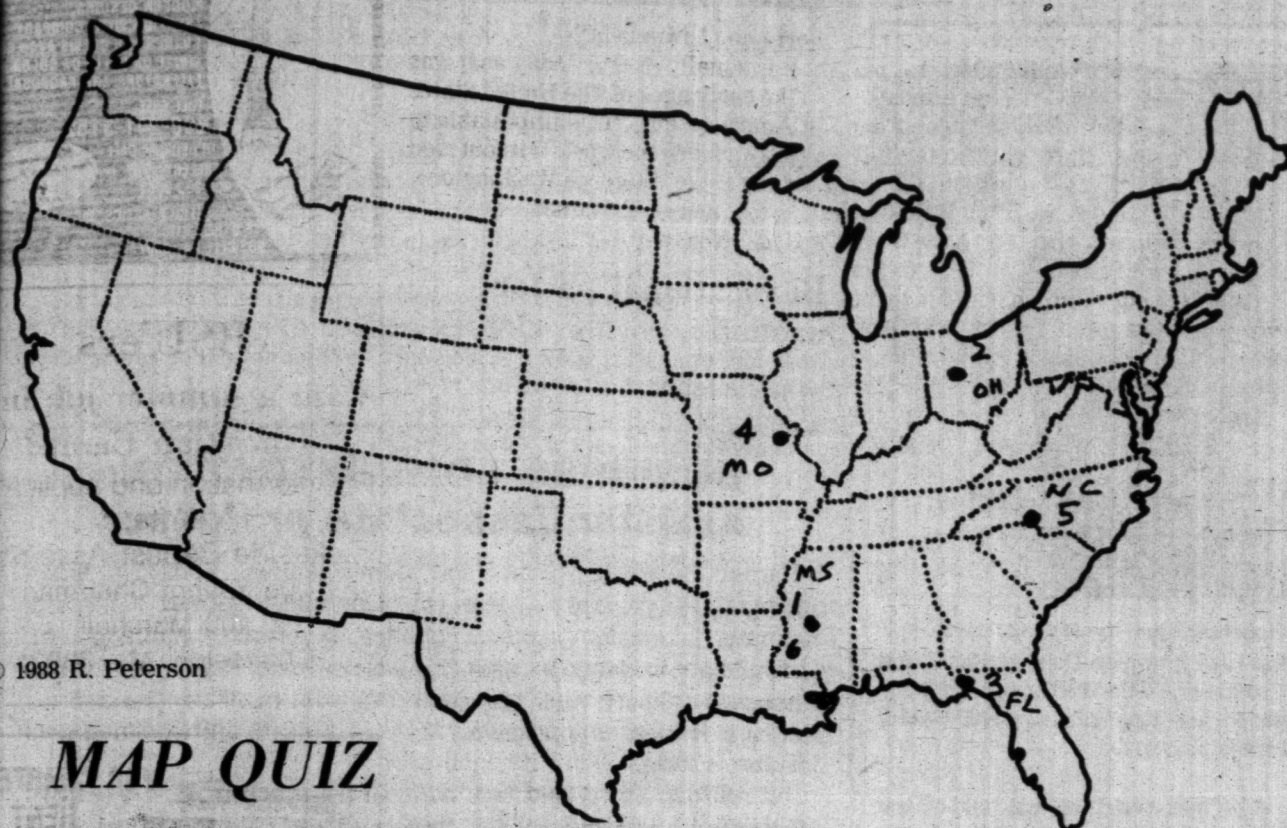


Book reviews

BOLD BEARERS OF HIS NAME by William N. McElrath (Broadman, 274 pp.) These 40 world mission stories were written, according to the author, with older children in mind. However, adults interested in mission work would no doubt enjoy reading them. And adults who work with children will find the book a good resource tool. There are four sections "Name-bearers Among the Nations" includes 20 stories of missionaries, past and present; "They Held the Ropes" has five stories of persons who have actively worked to support missionaries; "Might-Have-Been Stories" and 10 fiction stories based on fact; "Modern-Day Martyrs" includes five stories of persons who suffered for the sake of Christ in their own countries. William McElrath, a Kentuckian, has been a missionary to Indonesia since 1965 and hence is able to give a personal touch to missionary stories he writes. — AWM

PARTNERS ACROSS THE PACIFIC by Winston Crawley (Broadman, paperback, 140 pp., released in 1986). In this book, Winston Crawley ties together the pioneer missionary work begun in China 150 years ago, the China he knew while he was a missionary there, the China of recent decades of peril, and the China of the present. He expresses joy over advance made in the Lord's work there, despite hardships, and predicts a great future for Chinese Christians. He gives an assessment of the Three-Self Movement, describes the religious situation in China today as he sees it, and explains how Southern Baptists and Chinese Christians are working together. This book is valuable for the history given therein, and is an excellent resource book on China, as well as providing fascinating reading material. — AWM

THE CHILDREN'S PAGE



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MAP QUIZ

By Ralph Peterson

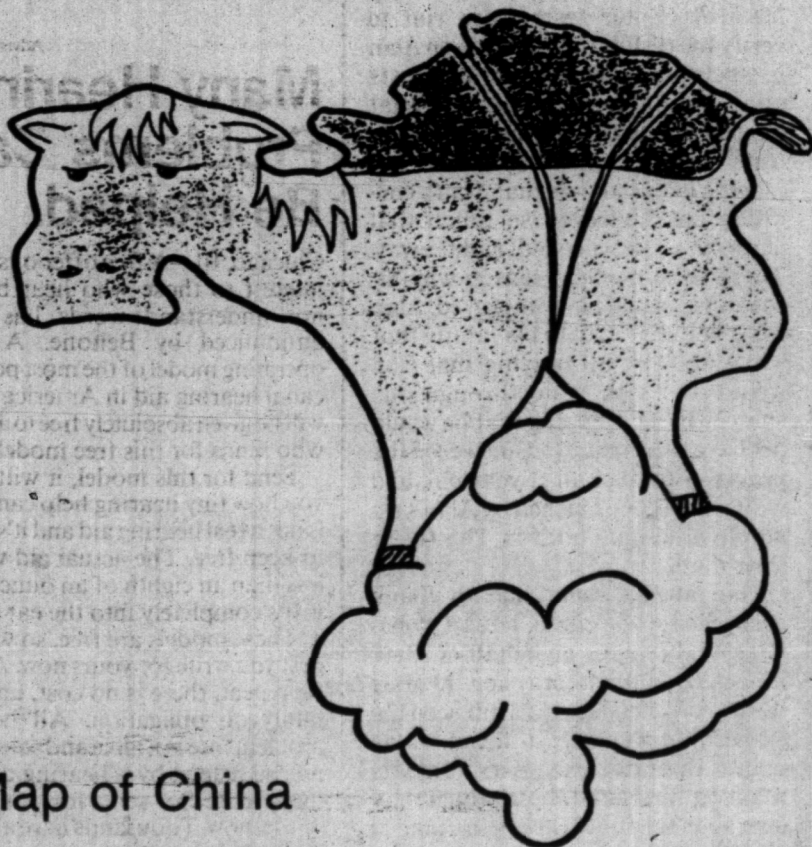
Can you name these cities on the map of the U.S.?

1. The capital of Mississippi.
 2. The capital of Ohio.
 3. The capital of Florida.
 4. The largest city in Missouri (it is located on the Mississippi River).
 5. The largest city in North Carolina (it is located on the border of South Carolina).
- Now connect the dots, starting with 1 and ending with 6. Can you see a star inside the connected dots?

GEOGRAFUN: (For Young Readers)

Nations and Imaginations

By Ralph C. Peterson



Map of China

Turn the map of China sideways. Can you imagine it is a camel? Camels were used by early explorers such as Marco Polo who reached China in 1275 A.D. Color the picture. Ralph Peterson, who writes about these maps, worked in Vicksburg 1974-1978, in a federal government job as librarian at the Waterways Experiment Station. He attended First Baptist Church, Vicksburg. Now he has a similar job as librarian in Washington, D.C. and lives at 1200 S. Washington St., 627 E. Alexandria, VA 22314.

Answer

1. Jackson, MS
2. Columbus, OH
3. Tallahassee, FL
4. St. Louis, MO
5. Charlotte, NC

Pen Pal Club

Anyone, ages 6 through 12, who wishes to meet a Pen Pal through the Baptist Record may do that by sending name, address, age, and name of church. Names will be listed monthly on the Children's Page.

Note to you who write to the Pen Pal Club: You need to choose a name and write to that person. The Baptist Record does not match the pen pals. If you write a letter to the BAPTIST RECORD, that might be printed if there is space.

Write Me

I would like to have a Pen Pal.
Michelle Allen
Rt. 6, Box 896
Brookhaven, MS 39601

I would like to have a Pen Pal.
Holly Shelden
Rt. 1, Box 211
Port Gibson, MS 39150
Age: 12
Church: Port Gibson Baptist Church

Do I like to give?

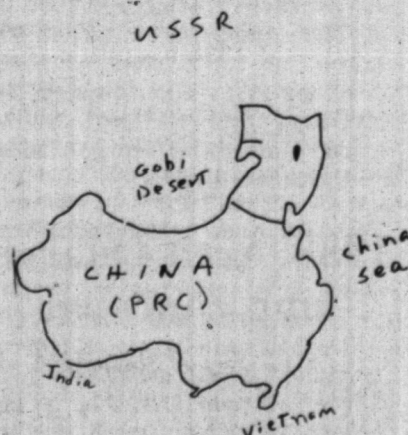
Match the book of the Bible with the verse from that book.

- M**alachi
- A**cts
- R**evelation
- C**orinthians (II)
- H**aggai

1. "The silver is mine and the gold is mine, said the Lord of Hosts." (2:8)
2. "Bring ye all the tithes into the storehouse..." (3:10)
3. "It is more blessed to give than to receive." (20:35)
4. "I will give unto him that is athirst of the fountain of the water of life freely." (21:6)
5. "God loveth a cheerful giver." (9:7)

Answer:

- 1-H
- 2-C
- 3-R
- 4-A
- 5-M



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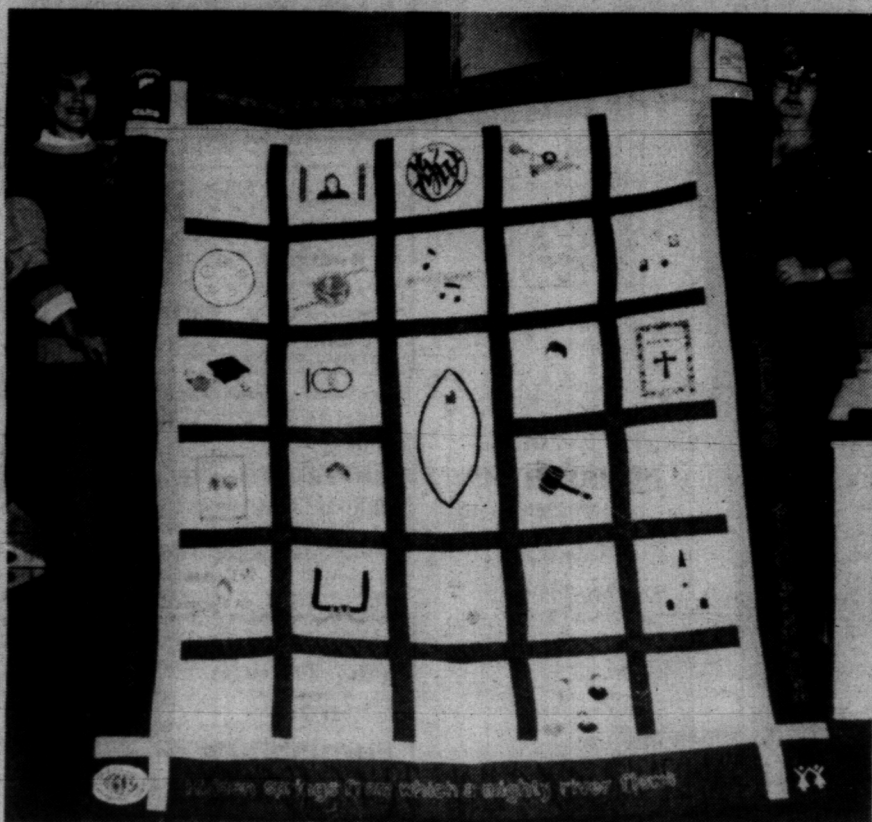
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Just for the Record



"Promises" was the theme for the first Acteen/GA Recognition Service at Old Oak Grove Church, Myrtle. Pictured are GAs (front row) Cindy Dawson, Larisa Grisham, Amanda Yager, Christy Hale, Contessia Hardin, Amanda Hargrove, and Amanda Horton; (back row) Crystal Kiddy, Jennifer Lovorn, Amanda Roberson, LeAnn Roberson, Jennifer Roland, and Ginger Simmons. GA leaders are Jan Brownlee, Deborah Kiddy, and Joyce Peters. Acteens, pictured, are Sandra Garrett and Stacy Brownlee. Acteens leaders are Kay Windham and Norma Brownlee. Tommy Peters is pastor.



Bethel Church, Lawrence Association, Monticello, WMU has made a WMU centennial quilt. The Gloria Circle made each square and pieced the quilt together; the Day Circle did the quilting. Mrs. Eva Rayborn is Centennial Chairman of the Gloria Circle, assisted by Mrs. Mary Benson. The quilt will be hung in the education annex. Pictured with the quilt is Mrs. Ann Johnson, left, WMU director, and Mrs. Tessie Summers, right, Gloria Circle president. Archie Herrin is pastor. (Photo furnished by Lawrence County Press, Monticello.)

Clarke Association sponsors Clarke Day

Ministerial students and faculty of Clarke College were invited to participate Feb. 21 as worship leaders in Clarke County Association churches.

Leaving Newton by the dawn's early light were James Read, Dean of the college, Allen Martin, Randy Bonner, Paul Demoney, Tom Fox, Tim Fanguy, Bruce Posey, Jerry Bingham, Charles Dugan, Danny Etheridge, Jimmy Collins, Richard Parnell, and David Wallace. Joining them for a well attended Clarke Day Youth Rally at 3 p.m. were Mrs. Marion Thornton of the music faculty and Eddie Ruddick, Chairman, Religion Department at Clarke.

Churches and pastors who participated in the Clarke Day activities

were Pleasant Hill, Cary Worthington, pastor; First, Stonewall, Albert McMullen, pastor; Union, John Edwards, pastor; Elim, Archie McIntyre, pastor; Pine Grove, Arlis Nichols, pastor; Pine Hill, Roy Garrison, pastor; Pleasant Grove, J. Hardee Kennedy, pastor; Northup Chapel, Lester Fleming, pastor; Knights Valley, B. Z. Byrd, pastor; Pleasant Grove East; and Hebron Ridge. The director of missions for Clarke County Association is Grady Crowell.

Old people are just LITTLE CHILDREN with experienced minds —Tex McPherson Dallas, Texas, copyright 1988.

A puppet workshop was held by the Monroe County Acteens at Southside Church in Aberdeen. A total of 41 was present for the presentations by the puppets of Southside Church and Cason Church. A hands-on experience was then given so each person could learn to use puppets. Acteen Activators present were Joylin Davis, Lorinda Brown, Wendy Grissom, and Trenda Berryhill.

The Activators will be active in puppets this summer in Oklahoma.

Antioch, Columbus, will hold a Spring Bible Conference, March 6-9. The study of the book of Malachi will be led by Don Stewart, vice president of New Orleans Seminary. Sunday services, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m. Mon.-Wed., noon and 7 p.m.

Good Hope Church, Lena, will have a dedication service for the new addition to its building on March 13. Lunch will be served in the fellowship hall immediately following worship services. This day also marks the beginning of the spring revival.

New Orleans Seminary will present a performance of the Oratorio, *Elijah* by Mendelssohn, March 8, at 7:30 p.m. The choirs will include the Baptist Seminary Chorus and the choir from Meredith College in Raleigh, N.C. The orchestra will consist of members of the New Orleans Symphony Orchestra, and the conductor will be Leroy Yarbrough, Professor at the Seminary. Admission is free.

Lynn Ray Road Church, Petal, had dedication services for its new church, Jan. 31. There was dinner on the grounds with afternoon singing. It has a charter member list of 138 members and 9 won to Christ. The church has two pastors, with one preaching every other Sunday, Bill Partridge and Emmett Boone. Charles Walker and George Maddox are the music directors.

1988 Area Quartet sing canceled

The Area Quartet Sing which was scheduled at First Church, Madison, March 5, has been canceled because of a lack of sufficient registration.

Pastoral Care Seminar: "Dealing with Loss"

"Dealing with Loss" is to be the topic of the annual Pastoral Care Seminar on March 10, at 9:30 a.m. in Mississippi Baptist Medical Center's Gilfoy Auditorium, Jackson. The speakers will be Richard Nowell, internist and gastroenterology specialist at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center, and Paul Stephenson, director of hospital chaplaincy, Home Mission Board, Atlanta.

The speakers will discuss ways of dealing with the grief such losses as the loss of a loved one through death or divorce, loss of a limb, financial loss, etc. The seminar, sponsored by MBMC's Pastoral Care Department and the Christian Action Commission, is free and open to the public. For more information call 968-5146.

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MC gets grant from Sears

Mississippi College has received a \$2,300 unrestricted grant from the Sears-Roebuck Foundation under its program for aid to privately supported colleges and universities.

Lewis Nobles, president of Mississippi College, accepted the check from Carroll L. Foster, representing the Sears-Roebuck Foundation in Jackson. Foster reported that some \$5,500 was distributed to private colleges in the metro Jackson area.

MC choir will present 'Spring Tour'

The Mississippi College Concert Choir will present its Spring Tour '88 concert March 8, at 8 p.m. in Provine Chapel. The public is invited and admission is free.

The six day tour of the choir found them visiting high schools and Baptist Churches in Southern Mississippi and West Florida.

The concert choir is composed of 42 singers representing nine states and one foreign country. Their program features varied selections representing various musical periods. Motets by Mendelssohn, Byrd, and Victoria will be performed. Contemporary works by Rutter, Fissinger, and Thompson are also planned. Also sections of Mozart's Requiem will be performed.

Richard Joiner, newly named acting head of the music department, will conduct the choir. Accompanists are Professor Billy Trotter, organist; and Susan Banes, pianist.

"Becoming number one is easier than remaining number one."
— SEN. BILL BRADLEY



Betty Cooksey, heart-lung transplant candidate from Park Place Church, Brandon, is pictured with Ted Dukes while he gives blood to be used for her operation.

Park Place holds blood drive

Park Place Church, Brandon held a blood drive Jan. 15, to provide needed blood for two of its members. Benny Whittington received a donor heart the first week of January. Betty Cooksey needs both lungs and heart and is now at the top of the computer

transplant list at the University of Mississippi Medical Center. Bobby Williamson, pastor, says that anyone wishing to give blood or help financially may contact Park Place Baptist Church, P. O. Box 1497, Brandon, MS 39042, or telephone 939-6282.

Staff changes

Shady Grove (George) has called Barry Tweedy as minister of music and youth. He will graduate from New Orleans Seminary in May. He is single.

Antioch (Greene) has called Joe Conerly as interim pastor. He lives in Mobile, Ala.

Colonial Hills Church, Southaven, recently called John Woods as minister of media and new member

training. Woods also serves as staff evangelist and plans to balance his revival schedule with church responsibilities. He is a graduate of Southwest Baptist University and Mid-America Seminary. Tommy Vinson is pastor.

Paul Chaney, minister of music and youth at Calvary, Meridian, for three years, has resigned in order to become pastor of Haywood Cates Church, Tallahassee, Florida.

Names in the news



Mrs. Kathryn Moore on Feb. 7 was honored with a surprise recognition service in honor of her 25 years of service as church secretary of Calvary Church, West Point. The pastor, Walter Frederick presented Mrs. Moore with an orchid corsage, an engraved silver locket, and a love offering from the church.

Special guests in attendance were her children, Mr. and Mrs. Roger Moore of Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. Larry Moore and family, and Mr. and Mrs. Bobby Farr and family, all of West Point. A reception in her honor was held after the evening worship service.

Ted E. Dukes was recently licensed to preach by Park Place Church, Brandon. A sophomore religion major at Mississippi College, he is minister of youth at Park Place. He surrendered to the ministry as a youth at Oakdale Church, Brandon.

Milton Wheeler, Dean of Students at William Carey College, delivered the keynote address at the annual state conference of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Feb. 18, in Jackson.

Pamela Pybas and Mark Holmes, both of Mississippi, will be directors for the Centrifuge program this summer. Centrifuge is a Southern Baptist youth camp sponsored by the Sunday School Department, Nashville. Pam will be camp director in Mobile, Ala., and Mark will be director for the east coast traveling team.

Pam is a graduate of Mississippi College and is presently enrolled at Southwestern Seminary. She is a native of Madison, where she was a member at First Church. She also served as interim youth minister at Fairview Church, Columbus.

Mark is a graduate of Baylor University in Waco, Tex., and is also currently enrolled at Southwestern Seminary. He is a native of Gulfport, where he was a member of First Church.

Revival dates

Corinth, Heidelberg: March 6-9; Sunday services, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Jim Stagg, Okahola, Purvis, guest speaker; special music each night; Johnny H. Breazeale, pastor.

Cash (Scott): March 6-9; R. B. McNeer, evangelist; Hamp Valentine, music; Sunday, 11 a.m., dinner on the ground, 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 p.m.; Jim Pender, pastor.

West Jackson, 3930 South Drive, Jackson: March 6-11; Benny Jackson, Memphis, evangelist; Sunday, 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Fri., noon and 7 p.m.; Jack D. Nazary, pastor.

Zion Hill, Wesson: March 6-10; J. Frank Smith, pastor; Jeff Steele, known as "Bro. Jeff" on WJXN radio station, is a minister, song writer, recording artist, and veteran broadcaster, and also pastor of Richland Baptist Church, evangelist; Sunday morning service 10:45 followed by dinner-on-the-grounds; weeknight services, 7.

First, Yazoo City: March 6-9; Landrum P. Leavell II, President, New Orleans Seminary, evangelist; Mickey Henderson, associate minister of music/media, First, Jackson, musician; Sunday, 11 a.m., 7 p.m.; Mon.-Wed., 7 a.m., 7 p.m.; James F. Yates, pastor.

Weekend promises fun for singles

NASHVILLE — Single Challenge '88 will be May 27-30 and is sponsored by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's family ministry department. In addition to seminars, conferences, concerts and large-group sessions, the convention in Nashville will conclude with 12 hours at Opryland. A new musical drama, "Every Single Life," will be premiered by the Genevox Music Group at the Grand Ole Opry House Sunday night, May 29.

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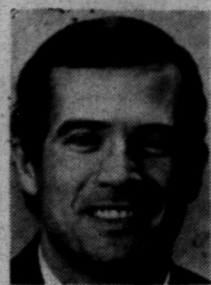
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Bridle your tongue — the ninth commandment

By M. Dean Register

Remember the old nursery rhyme, "Sticks and stones may break my bones, but words can never hurt me"? Unfortunately, the ancient



Register

couplet is not completely true. Sticks and stones can indeed break the bones, but words can grind the bones to powder. Words can hurt or words can heal. They can stab or they can soothe. Proverbs 18:21 reminds us that "death and life are in the power of the tongue." The ninth commandment, like the three preceding commandments, is plain and direct: "Thou shalt not bear false witness" (Ex. 20:16). It champions the principle of truth and specifically addresses the problem of perjury. False witnesses were common in ancient times and the ninth commandment raises the standard for honesty in the judicial system. The Hebrew word for "false" in Ex. 20:16 is "shager" and it can be translated as "deceive" or "lie." It has particular reference to lying under oath while testifying in a court.

LIFE AND WORK

God instructed his people to speak the truth. A false testimony can literally wreck the life of an innocent person. It can kill silently without a weapon. Ex. 23:1 amplifies the prohibition against falsehood, "Do not spread false reports. Do not help wicked man by being a malicious witness" (NIV). Similarly, Prov. 6:16-19 enumerates seven things which are an abomination to God, the last of which is "a false witness who utters lies." If justice is to prevail in the courts, then truth must be practiced in the lives of God's people. Truth takes root in privacy before it ever bears fruit in public. But lying can manifest itself in a variety of ways. There is a lie of malice that deliberately impugns the character of another person. There is a lie of boasting that occurs when a person tells something in such a way that the facts are disregarded or slighted. There is a lie of carelessness that we generally refer to as a "little white lie," but is nevertheless an inaccuracy. And there is a lie of silence that manifests itself in refusal to get involved in an issue of truth and

honesty.

Jesus said that every idle word shall be weighed in the balance of judgment (Matt. 12:36). Why? Because our words are mirrors of our character. False words convey a false deed. The mouth speaks what the heart contains.

Four high school boys were late for school one morning. They contrived a story and solemnly told the teacher they were detained, due to the flat tire. The wise teacher smiled and told them it was too bad they were late because they missed a test that morning. But she was willing to let them make it up. She gave them each a piece of paper and a pencil and sent them to four corners of the room. Then she told them they would pass if they could answer just one question: Which tire was flat??

On the day when God administers his test on our words and our deeds, what shall we say? Confession and repentance are immediately requisites for us all. Enough labeling and backbiting has occurred. What a shame that Christians are often the perpetrators of calumny and vituperation. We must be bearers of the standard of honesty and adhere to the exhortation of Ephesians 4:15 so that we speak the truth in love and grow under the lordship of Christ.

Truth and love are two sides of the same coin. The person who hurls invectives and brags, "I just tell-it-like-it-is," is often lacking in New Testament love. Truth is not a club to be used for destruction, but a tool to be shared for edification.

We would do well to cling to Paul's instruction and practice it daily: "Do not use harmful words, but only helpful words, the kind that build up and provide what is needed, so that what you say will do good to those who hear you" (Eph. 4:29 TEV).

If judgment must begin in the house of God, then it must continue throughout our beloved convention. Let us be done with clandestine meetings, reviling speech, covert politics, and hidden agendas. For the sake of the truth that sets us free, we must remember that Jesus didn't come to take sides, he came to take over — to take over our motives, our actions, and our tongues.

M. Dean Register is pastor, First, Gulfport.

The disciples' future: Jesus is coming again

By Jimmy G. McGee

Matthew 25:31-46

It is certain by God's Word that the Heavenly Father knows all things and understands perfectly so that his judgment is altogether righteous.



McGee

It is certain by God's Word that Jesus is coming again to this earth. He is coming to consummate all things in himself, to announce judgment in the separation of believers and unbelievers, and to reign eternally.

The disciples gathered around Jesus wanted to know WHEN. Disciples today are still trying to fix the time. Jesus said plainly that nobody can know the time, not even the Son. Only the Father knows. Instead, Jesus admonished his disciples then and now to "watch" and be always ready. Ready is assured by believing on Jesus as Saviour and by keeping on believing in "Christ in you, the hope of glory."

When Jesus comes, all people will be

UNIFORM

gathered before him and he will separate the sheep from the goats, believers on the right and unbelievers on the left. He will reward the believers "in the kingdom prepared" for them (verse 34). Heaven is a prepared place for prepared people! He will reveal the "cursed" and allow their entry "into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels" (verse 41). Hell is a prepared place, especially prepared for the eternal containment of the devil and his angels. The devil is real, but not human; the angels are real, but not human. Humans who reject Jesus and follow Satan destine themselves to go to hell also. "Everlasting fire" is a terrible, frightening, endless nightmare, the worst possible scenario. No one will want it.

Separating sheep and goats was a familiar sight in Palestine. Sheep represent the good and goats the bad. As the primary difference in sheep and goats is an inner unseen quality, so

also is the difference in believers and unbelievers. It has to do with faith's response to grace whereby in fact the believer is forgiven, cleansed, and changed. God knows the difference.

As the difference in sheep and goats is observed in behaviour, so also is the difference in believers and unbelievers. The faith that saves is evidenced by works. The seen evidence confirms the believer and witnesses to the unbeliever.

The immediate context focuses on a critical criterion whereby judgment is announced. It is not the only criterion but it is enough, if missing, to confirm that Christ has not been received in faith. It calls Christians to the practical ministry of love and compassion and helpful consideration of others.

Jesus said "I was . . . hungry . . . thirsty . . . a stranger . . . naked . . . sick . . . in prison . . . and you came to me" (verses 35-36). When? "Inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me" (verse 40). Jesus identified with man in all his

circumstance and need and so must we. "Inasmuch" points to everyday life situations and confrontations with others giving ample opportunity to help. Jesus meets needs practically and humanly through his people who share his ministry unselfishly and unconsciously. What you are is demonstrated in what you do.

Tempted we are to go it alone, taking the Bible in hand and escaping to the woods and imagining ourselves to be in unison with God. The Christian life is people-centered and ministry-oriented. It is giving, not getting.

The end of our lives on earth is the beginning of an eternal unchangeableness. We are living in the brief now in Christ, in preparation for the forever future. "As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all men, especially unto them who are of the household of faith" (Gal. 6:10).

"LOVE ever gives, forgives, outlives;
And while it lives it gives,
For this is love's prerogative
to give, and give and GIVE."

Jimmy McGee is pastor, First, Grenada.

Joseph's rise to power: the stage is set

By Gayle Alexander

Genesis 41:1-57

God is faithful to prepare us for what he has prepared for us. Through years of slavery God developed in Joseph a genuine servant spirit.



Alexander

God has illustrated in a life one of the greatest truths that the way to greatness is by way of being a servant. It is interesting that in Jewish thought one could not assume a position of great leadership until age 30. (Note Jesus)

Egypt's history was in God's hands. The drama of Joseph's rise to power began to unfold with the dreams of the Pharaoh. The dream of seven poor cows eating up seven fat cows, and the dream of seven good ears of corn being devoured by poor ones carried the same message.

No wise man in Egypt could be found to interpret the dream. Suddenly, the butler, who had been free for two years, remembered Joseph. People often forget others unless the others can be of use to them. Nevertheless, he told the king that Joseph had interpreted dreams for him and the baker, and that both

dreams came true just exactly as Joseph had said.

"Then Pharaoh sent and called Joseph" (41:14). The king indicated his understanding that Joseph could interpret dreams. Joseph was quick to point out to the Pharaoh that the interpretation did not lie with him but with God. Also, Joseph further stated that God was going to reveal what he was about to do (41:25). The fact of having his dream interpreted would calm his spirit. Incidentally, what God was about to do also had connection with Joseph's own life and his sense of destiny in God.

Pharaoh shared the details of the dreams with Joseph. Joseph replied that there are two parts of the one dream. The dream had been doubled to emphasize its certainty and its immediacy. The number seven in both dreams referred to years. The quality of cattle and the corn referred to the weather conditions which would regulate crop production. God, who was in control of the affairs of Egypt, was already in the process of staging his plans. "Behold, there comes seven years of plenty . . ." (41:29). The good news came first.

There would be seven years of plenty in-

dictated by the seven fat cows and the seven good ears of corn. These would be followed by seven years of famine. The seven-year famine would be so severe the people would forget about the seven good years. The severity of the famine is dramatized by one of the unusual details of the dream, that the poor cows were just as poor after they had eaten the fat cows.

Joseph wanted to impress upon the Pharaoh the urgency of the situation. The scenario actually had already begun. Pharaoh needed to develop a wise course of action. The king should find a man who was wise and discreet and place him in charge to prepare for the famine. Pharaoh accepted not only Joseph's logical interpretation of the dream, but also, he accepted the fact that it was God who had revealed the interpretation to Joseph.

"Can we find such a man as this in whom the spirit of God is?" (41:38). Joseph had already demonstrated the two things that he suggested that the Pharaoh look for in a man, discernment and wisdom. Discernment had to do with one's understanding the issues. Joseph had interpreted the dream. Wisdom had to do with one's ability to act effectively. He had already suggested a plan of action. God had prepared him well.

Joseph was ready. He knew God's hands were upon him and God yet had a purpose for him. The suggestion "was good in the eyes of the Pharaoh" (41:37). Pharaoh was wise in knowing that Joseph was such a man and he was made second in command to the king. He set about to supervise the production of crops and the gathering of grain. Commensurate with his position, he was given a ring for authority in sealing public documents, special clothing of royalty, and a chariot second only to Pharaoh. It is interesting that Joseph says that he was "a father to the Pharaoh" (45:8).

"Whoever wants to be greatest of all, let him be servant of all" (Mark 10:44). God's truths are illustrated in human experiences. Joseph was a man with a genuine servant spirit, and hence he became an excellent leader.

Joseph's administration was brilliant. "And when all the land of Egypt was famished . . ." (41:55) the people cried out unto Pharaoh for the grain. He was true to his word and sent him to Joseph. The famine was not confined to the borders of Egypt. "And all countries came unto Joseph to buy corn . . ." (41:57). The stage was set for further developments in the life of Joseph and Israel.

Gayle Alexander is pastor, First, Tupelo.

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Mrs. Billie Jean Logan
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FBC Houston
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Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth C.
Stewart Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Oliver N. King
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Stewart Jr.
Mrs. Muriel C. Stewart
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Adult 3 Ladies Sunday
School, FBC, Bude
FBC, Bude
Mr. & Mrs. Mike Zumbro
Robert Bowman
Mr. Edward D. Elward
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Mary Jane
Bob & Mary Elizabeth
Louis & Lillian Boteler
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Mr. Charles Holmes
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Mr. Ben Tucker Dean
The Virgil Myers
Mr. & Mrs. O. J. Dear, Sr.
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Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Reed, Jr.

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Class
Phoebe Class, Sr. Adult II,
FBC, McComb
Mrs. Polly (Kent) Downing
Mrs. Edward T. Ruffin
Viola Echols Duncan
Norman & Elsie Breland
Vivian Dykes
Harold & Linda Polk
Ameil "Bubba" Earp, Jr.
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Lt. Colonel Ben Ellis
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Mr. Ray Fontan
Prentiss & Louise Hicks
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Mrs. Wilburn Fortenberry
Mrs. Hilton Varnado
Mother of Mrs. Lannon (Jan
Fran)
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(To be continued)



"MOBILIZATION"

As part of the Jeff-Davis and Covington Baptist Association's 1987 "MOBILIZATION NIGHT" emphasis was given to The Baptist Children's Village. Shown above is Rev. David Deweese, pastor of Bassfield Baptist Church presenting \$1,000.00 to Mr. Paul N. Nunnery, Executive Director of The Village. Rev. Deweese made the gift on behalf of Seminary, Ebenezer, Carson, Willow Grove, Cold Springs, Dublin, Union North, Victory, Bassfield, Lone Star, Union South and Rock Hill Baptist Churches.

Help !

There is immediate need for mature, Christian couples and ladies, ages 30 to 60 years, to serve as HOUSEPARENTS on our residential child care staff. Applicants must be in good physical and emotional health, prepared to accept 24-hour per day residential assignment with children.

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Baptist Record

Gospel shared in Brazil through amputee's story

By Eric Miller

RECIFE, Brazil (BP) — Brazilians' reactions to a Southern Baptist missionary child with no hands or feet have ranged from fear to fascination.

But often the encounters allow his parents to present Christ's message of love.

Philip Newberry, 3, the son of missionaries Randy and Jan Newberry, has been called the "miracle child." After much prayer, he recovered from severe meningitis that had caused portions of his arms and legs to be amputated after gangrene set in. Later, he was fitted with prostheses.

The Newberry family was on furlough when Philip got sick in April 1986.

Philip, his parents, and their other children, Joey and Amy, returned to Brazil about a year ago.

"It's quite an experience to be on the streets with Philip because people really stare," his father says. "Everywhere we go, people say, 'Was he born that way or did he have an accident?'"

The Newberrys were walking through a market in Sao Paulo, Brazil, one day when Philip noticed a beggar with a tin can.

"All of a sudden, Philip said, 'Daddy, look, that man doesn't have any

feet!' It didn't dawn on Philip that he didn't either," Newberry says.

Philip walked over and talked to the beggar, who was sitting in the street. "It was like there was a bond there," says his mother. The beggar asked how Philip had lost his legs. He was "very excited to see that Philip could walk with his prostheses because this man didn't have any."

They talked with the beggar a few times, telling him how God had spared Philip and that "God has a plan for Philip's life and for every life, this man's life too," Mrs. Newberry says.

With Brazilians "always asking" about Philip, the Newberrys have encountered others with problems. "We were able to minister to one lady who had a little boy who had some mental problems," Mrs. Newberry says. "Her husband had separated (left her) because of the problems with the child."

In another case, a woman begging on the street approached the Newberrys with her hand extended. When she discovered Philip's lack of hands, she was ashamed of herself and turned away.

"There are some who see absolutely no difference in Philip," Mrs. Newberry explains. "One little boy

told him one day, 'I can run faster than you can.' The child spoke to him like he would anybody else."

Philip had a slight setback when the Newberrys first returned to Brazil.

He fractured a leg while kicking a soccer ball with his father.

He still was wearing a cast when the Newberrys transferred from Sao Paulo to Recife so that Newberry could teach in Baptist Theological Seminary.

The preschool administrator would not allow Philip to enroll in the school at first. She assumed meningitis had caused brain damage and Philip would be too uncoordinated to function well and wouldn't fit in because he didn't speak Portuguese.

But when she learned he'd been playing soccer and found him to be outgoing, she was willing to give him a try.

"She wanted to give Philip the chance to prove that he could function with other children in a regular school situation," Mrs. Newberry says. "She also wanted her students to realize that just because someone is different, he is no less a person — that someone with physical difficulties can still lead a normal life."

Eric Miller writes for the FMB.

Nancie Wingo, once in Beirut, now copes with Gaza's strife

By Art Toalston

GAZA CITY (BP) — Nancie Wingo is in a hot spot again. "When the shooting starts around here, the girls come over here and stay with me. They say, 'If you survived Beirut, I guess you'll survive this.'"

Wingo is a temporary mother figure for about 10 female nursing students unable to leave the School of Allied Health Sciences for the refugee camps where they live. Ten male students also are stranded at the Baptist-sponsored school.

Entrances to eight refugee camps, where most of Gaza's 600,000-plus Palestinians live, had been blocked by Israeli troops for nearly a week.

When protests mount, troops have used gunfire to disperse crowds. At least 35 Arabs have been killed.

Wingo has been in Gaza since last April. She weathered much of Lebanon's ongoing civil war at the Beirut Baptist School in West Beirut, leaving the country only after the U.S. government suspended passport privileges for Americans there early last year.

Three other former Lebanon missionaries also are in Gaza: Karl and

Thelma Weathers from Earle, Ark., and Mabel Summers from Bardstown, Ky., who retired in 1985. Summers is there as a volunteer.

Being in Gaza at a time of spiraling unrest gives her "a horrible feeling of, 'Oh, no, here we go again,'" she says.

"Things have deteriorated so badly in the last two weeks that you kind of wonder where it's all going to go," Wingo said in a telephone interview Jan. 15. "All the missionaries ask ourselves daily, 'Is this going to be another Beirut?' Is it going to go on and on or is it going to get better?"

Eighteen Southern Baptist missionaries in Gaza are staying close to home. Gaza's unrest caused the School of Allied Health Sciences to cancel classes the week of Jan. 11 and for six days before the Christmas holidays.

The school, with 58 Muslim students, most of them from the refugee camps, is adjacent to the Anglican-operated Ahli Arab Hospital. Many of the students assist there, and Southern Baptist physician Dean Fitzgerald is on the staff.

"I look out from my window to the

emergency room," Wingo said. "We have had as many as 25 to 35 patients brought in . . . several days in a row" — on days when the British Broadcasting Corp. has reported that only "several" were injured. There are several hospitals in Gaza, but at the Anglican institution, the men's ward is full and the children's ward now is being used for other wounded men.

Someone recently said to Wingo, "Well, you're used to this, aren't you?"

"No, you don't really get used to any of this," she reflects. "The conditions here are a different kind of sadness and hopelessness than I found in Beirut. There's only one side here with arms. In other words, this is an occupied territory."

Like any other hot spot, Gaza affords "a lot of opportunities to minister to people who are in terrible conditions," Wingo said. It takes a long time to earn the trust of Muslim students, she added, "to show them that we are people who, because of our faith, are very caring and concerned for them and we want good for them . . . because we know God wants that for them."

Art Toalston writes for the FMB.

SCRAPBOOK

The prowling lions

There's a lion standing before me
With shaggy mane,
Mouth opened wide, showing fierce teeth!
Don't run — he's made of wood.

He's beautifully hand-carved,
Revealing delicate features
And lovely grains in wood,
By an expert craftsman.

Given at Christmastime
By a missionary family
Home on furlough
From Kenya, Africa.

Ever since I first heard the story of
Daniel in the lions' den,
The two are paired together —
Even today — Daniel and the lion.

And this has always been
One of my favorite Bible stories,
How God spared Daniel from
The fierce and hungry lions.

We don't have lions' dens here
Nor fierce and hungry lions
Prowling about.
Or . . . do we?

We live in the midst of "lions,"
Satan being the chief,
And they still are fierce and hungry,
Seeking whom they may devour.

Some have cunning and crafty devices
And creep up unawares,
While some roar very loud —
In the Bible we're told.

As God spared Daniel long ago,
He will also deliver us
From the prowling lions of today.
We must watch and pray.

—Ruby Singley
Columbia

Your Father

You favor your Father;
His likeness is there
Around your mouth and in your eyes
Reveals whose name you bear.

His characteristics
A copy-child would make;
Obedience and love decides
The Father that you take.

A family resemblance
In movement and in walk,
The words I hear are his each time
I listen to you talk.

—Mrs. D. F. Crowe
Greenville

By this it may be seen who are the
children of God, and who are the
children of the devil (1 John 3:10).

BMH to manage Tippah Hospital

MEMPHIS — Baptist Memorial Health Care Development Corp. has agreed to manage the 99-bed Tippah County Hospital in Ripley, Miss., for a year, effective Feb. 4, 1988.

The management contract was awarded to BMHCDC, a unit of the Baptist Memorial Health Care System, by the hospital's board of trustees.

Bobby Hancock, director of corporate services, said the system has an option to continue the management contract beyond a year if it desires.

The hospital is the second hospital in Mississippi built with Federal Hill-Burton funds. The oldest is Baptist Memorial Hospital-Booneville.

"The trouble with doing something right the first time is that nobody appreciates how difficult it was."

—WALT WEST

Baptist Record

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March 3, 1988

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